MY BOOK
Francis P. Fretwell

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Beard's Hunting Diary.

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A Diary

OF

FIFTEEN YEARS' HUNTING,

VIZ.

FROM 1796 *TO* 1811.

BY JOHN BEARD,

OF

Tormarton, Gloucestershire.

"SO the stanch Hound the trembling Hare pursues,
And smells his footsteps in the tainted dews;
The tedious track unrav'ling by degrees;
But when the scent comes warm in ev'ry breeze,
Fired at the near approach he shoots away
On his full stretch, and bears upon his prey."

ADDISON.

BATH,

PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR,

BY

W. MEYLER AND SON, ABBEY CHURCH-YARD.

1813.

THE AUTHOR

OF THE

FOLLOWING PAGES,

BEGS PERMISSION HUMBLY TO INSCRIBE THEM

TO

His GRACE the DUKE of BEAUFORT;

WITH WHOSE SANCTION, AND UNDER WHOSE PROTECTION,

AS WELL AS THOSE OF

HIS NOBLE FATHER,

HE FOR MANY YEARS ENJOYED THE

SPORTS OF THE FIELD:

IN THE COURSE OF HIS DIARY,

THE WRITER ACKNOWLEDGES THAT HE WAS OCCASIONALLY

ACCOMPANIED IN

HIS HUNTING EXCURSIONS

BY

THEIR GRACES,

AND OTHER BRANCHES OF THE BADMINTON FAMILY;

TO BE KNOWN TO WHOM HE EVER THOUGHT

AN HONOUR;

AND TO BE HOLDEN BY THEM IN NEIGHBOURLY RESPECT

HE ESTEEMED

THE CHIEF PRIDE

OF

AN HONEST, RUSTIC LIFE.

J. B.

Tormarton, May 1813.

PREFATORY ADDRESS.

FRIENDS and NEIGHBOURS! who have often been my Companions in the Chase, and to whom I have occasionally given a perusal of my Annual Manuscript Diaries; and who have pressingly desired me to get them printed, that you might sometimes recur to them, and bring to recollection those happy days of health and exercise we have enjoyed together—behold, I have at last complied with your flattering wishes, and have produced a Volume! Yet, notwithstanding your partiality, arising from many local circumstances, I am conscious my Diary can contain very little to amuse the general Reader—the humble annals of a Sportsman, limited to a few confined districts, cannot be greatly diversified, or afford much instruction, information, or amusement.

When the Sport of the Day was over, when my Friends had taken their departure to their several homes, and I was left to repose and recruit by my humble Fireside, you know it was my customary task to scribble

down the events of the Chase; state to what part of the surrounding Country I had taken my faithful Pack of Harriers; what diversion they had afforded; what slaughter made; and sometimes by whom I had been attended. There must appear a too great similarity between the detail of one year's sport and that of the succeeding; but I never intended that my Diary should have been seen beyond the circle of my own Friends, and who perfectly knew every field, wood, common, hill, and dale we had ranged through and over. To them only will the perusal of these pages appear the least interesting. The good opinion of others I am not solicitous to acquire, knowing that I should be disappointed if I either expected their praise, or deprecated their censure, for thus obtruding myself on their notice as a Writer.

My Reading has never extended beyond such Books as might render a laborious Yeoman a useful member of the small community in which he moved, and to such as should prepare him for a *state hereafter*; excepting the perusal of publications that treated on the chief source of my amusement in this life—the *Recreation of Hunting*; amongst those the honest, poetic SOMERVILLE was my most favourite Author—from his page it will be seen that I have made some liberal quotations and I beg leave to finish this Address by another apposite extract from the same descriptive pen:—

"Now golden Autumn, from her open lap,
Her fragrant bounties show'rs; the fields are shorn;
Inward smiling, the proud Farmer views
The rising pyramids that grace his yard,
And counts his large increase; his barns are stored,
And groaning staddles bend beneath their load.
All now is free as air, and the gay pack,
In the rough bristly stubbles, range unblamed;
No Widow's tears o'erflow, no secret curse
Swells in the Farmer's breast, which his pale lips
Trembling conceal, by his fierce Landlord aw'd:
But courteous now, he levels every fence,
Joins in the common cry, and halloos loud,
Charm'd with the rattling thunder of the field.
Oh! bear me, some kind Pow'r invisible!
To that extended lawn, where the gay court
View the swift racers, stretching to the goal;
Games more renown'd, and a far nobler train,
Than proud Elean Fields could boast of old.
Oh! were a THEBAN lyre not wanting,
And PINDAR'S voice, to do their merit right!
Or, to those spacious plains, where the strain'd eye,
In the wide prospect lost, behold, at last,
Sarum's proud spire, that o'er the hills ascends,
And pierces thro' the clouds: or to thy downs,
Fair Cotswold, where the well-breath'd beagle climbs,
With matchless speed, thy green aspiring brow,
And leaves the lagging multitude behind."

HUNTING

IN

1796 *and* 1797.

BY JOHN BEARD.

HUNTING in the year 1796, began *September 24th.* Threw off on Kington-Down, where two hares were started; one was killed in the thorns; the other after running four good rings, was killed on Lapdown-Farm.

Sept. 27th.—Started again on Kington-Down one hare, after a short run was killed near the same place; afterwards another was started in Shirril-Wood, and lost. A middling day's sport.

Sept. 30th.—Started two hares; but soon lost them, without much sport.

Oct. 6th.—Started at Littleton-Drew four or five hares; killed a brace. A good day's sport.

Oct. 10th.—Started two hares at Tormarton, which shewed good sport; both were killed.

Oct. 15*th.*—Started two hares at Acton-Turvil, and killed both, after good runs; and one on Kington-Down, which was soon lost.

Oct. 17*th.*—Started two hares at Littleton-Drew, and killed them both; several more were started, but drew off. Had excellent sport.

Oct. 21*st.*—Started one hare on Kington-Down, after a good run killed her in the thorns.

Oct. 26*th.*—Killed three hares at Acton-Turvil, after smart but short runs; several others were moved.

Oct. 28*th.*—At Horton, with Mr. Frances's hounds, killed three hares. A good day's sport.

Oct. 29*th.*—This day threw off at Littleton-Drew, where one hare was started, which was killed; another was started, which shewed good sport for four hours, and lost her. The company out were, his Grace the Duke of Beaufort, Lords Charles and Edward Somerset, Dr. Penney, Mr. Poyntz, General Rook, Dr. Hardwick, Mr. Russ, and Mr. Hetling.

Nov. 5*th*—Killed one hare in Alderton-Grove wood, and 2 at Acton-Turvil. A good day's sport.

Nov. 11*th.*—Killed one hare on Kington-Down, and one on Marshfield-Down, and not saved; another on the same Down was killed, and one in Wrixhall, after good runs, and saved.

Nov. 14*th.*—Started one hare beyond Marshfield, and killed her, after a long and an excellent good run, and good sport.

Nov. 18*th.*—Started on Kington-Down one hare, which after a good run was lost; started another in the warren, and killed, after a good run, but not saved.

Nov. 22*d.*—Started two hares on Kington-Down, and lost them; killed one in Farmer Arnold's turnips, without any running, and not saved; had no sport, the scent was bad all the day.

Nov. 29*th.*—This day went to Slaughterford, where one hare was killed without any sport.

Dec. 12*th.*—At Pucklechurch with Mr. Frances and Mr. Hathway's hounds; started only one hare, which was killed in covert without running.

Dec. 13*th.*—Started a hare at Waply bushes, which after a smart run was lost.

Dec. 16*th.*—Started a hare on Kington-Down, and lost her after three hours middling hunting.

Dec. 31*st.*—Started a hare on Kington-Down; after running a few rings in the thorns lost her; another was moved in F. Arnold's turnips and killed; started another on Marshfield Down, which shewed good sport but was lost. A good day's sport.

Jan. 3*d,* 1797.—Started as it was supposed a fox, at Littleton brake, which ran directly to Badminton Park; after that many hares were started in the brake, and but one killed. On the whole it was an excellent day's sport, the hounds ran and hunted well all the day. We were accompanied by Lord Manners.

Jan. 7th.—Started one hare in Harkcom, and and another at Tormarton, but had little sport.

Jan. 20th.—Started one hare near Kington, and after four hours bad hunting lost her.

Jan. 23d.—Started one hare in Harkcom, after running two rings killed her; started another in Shirril wood and lost her.

Jan. 25th.—This day with Mr. Northey's hounds, at Tormarton, started many hares. Had good sport but no death.

Jan. 26th.—Started many hares at Littleton-Drew. A good day's sport, killed but one, and that the hounds eat.

Feb. 2d.—Started many hares in the warren and in Acton-Marsh. Had good sport, one was killed and well saved, by *Leivey*.

Feb. 4th.—Unkennelled a fox in Marshfield wood, after several hours running, it was supposed he went to earth; went to Marshfield thorns, where we started a hare, which shewed good sport but did not kill her.

Feb. 6th.—Mr. Northey's hounds ran many hares at Acton-Marsh, killed one. A good day's sport.

Feb. 7th.—Started many hares at Littleton-Drew; had an exceeding good day's sport, the scent was good all day, one only was killed.

Feb. 8th.—Mr. Northey had a good day's sport, killed one hare.

Feb. 15th.—At Oldlands had a good day's sport, ran many hares; killed only one.

Feb. 17*th.*—Threw off again at Oldlands, where we had good sport; killed but one hare.

Feb. 21*st.*—At Pucklechurch a blank day.

Feb. 22*d.*—At ditto started one hare; had many good rings with good sport.

Feb. 27*th.*—At Oldlands had plenty of good running, but did not kill one hare.

March 3*d.*—In the parish of Marshfield, started one hare, but as the scent was bad we had no sport.

March 6*th.*—Started one hare on Kington-Down, and many at Littleton-Drew; had good running, but not one hare killed.

March 10*th.*—Started one hare near Kington-Wick; after three hours good running, she was killed and not saved.

March 15*th.*—Started two hares near Kington wood, killed one of them, but not saved; one at Nettleton and one at Littleton-Drew were moved. As the land was dry and the air cold, the scent was bad—had no sport.

March 21*st.*—At Oldlands and near thereto, started and ran many hares; killed two. Considering the dryness of the land, and the coldness of the air, it was a good day's sport. Afterwards dined at Badminton.

March 27*th.*—Started one hare on Kington-Down, after running several rings killed her; started another in Harkcom, and after running

good rings, drew off. On the whole a very good day's sport.

April 5th.—Started one hare on Kington-Down, after a good run, drew off; started another in Harkcom, which shewed very good sport, and was killed on Kington-Down. The hounds ran and hunted well all the day. The company out this day were—Mr. Hathway, Mr. Iveyliefe, Mr. Harmer, Mr. Whiton, and Mr. Iveliefe, jun. who all dined with me this day, and spent the evening very jovial and merry; they seemed all mightily well pleased.

The Easter Hunt, April 8th.—Two basket hares were turned out in Kington field, which shewed good sport but not long runs; after that many hares were started at Acton-Turvil, which shewed good sport. The company out that day were—Lords Arthur and Edward Somerset, Gen. Rook and Dr. Penney.

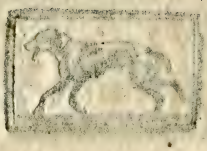
Hunting Days in the whole Season were with

Mr. Hathway's hounds	42
Mr. Northey's ditto	4
Mr. Frances's ditto	1
	47

Number of Hares killed:

Mr. Hathway's	44
Mr. Northey's	2
Mr. Frances's	3
Blank days with Mr. H.	1
Days on which no hare was killed	11
	61

Money given to the Huntsman .. £7 15 0



HUNTING

IN

1797 *and* 1798.

THE first time of going out this year was of *Wednesday, Sept. 27th,* 1797.—Started four hares on Kington-Down; one ran to Badminton, and one ran into the standing corn; both were whipped off from; the two others were killed, and one other was killed in the warren.

Oct. 4th.—We found at Kington-Down, and near thereto five hares; three of them were killed. A most excellent day's sport.

Oct. 9th.—Cast off again on Kington-Down, where four hares were started; killed three of them. A very good day's sport, though not a good scenting day.

Oct. 13th.—This day started two hares beyond Marshfield; killed one of them and a rabbit. A middling day's sport.

Oct. 21*st.*—Started many hares at Acton-Marsh; killed five; three only were saved; one other was started in my park, which ran to Badmington; and one on Kington-Down, which shewed good sport, but whipped off. A very good day's sport, the scent was good all the day.

Oct. 23*d.*—Started one hare on Kington field, one in the thorns, and two in my home tining; killed them all. A very good day's sport.

Oct. 28*th.*—This day threw off at Littleton-Drew; where many hares were started; three were killed, but one saved. A good day's sport. Mr. Scroop's hounds joined us this day.

Nov. 6*th.*—Went to Acton-Turvil, where many hares were started; killed four, three were well saved. Had good sport, but not long runs.

Nov. 8*th.*—Went again to Littleton-Drew; where we had plenty of hares; three were killed and well saved, after extraordinary good runs. The scent was very good.

Nov. 13*th.*—Threw off on Marshfield-Down, where two hares were started, and one in Shirril; one of them was killed and not saved. On the whole had tolerable sport.

Nov. 17*th.*—Started one hare in Shirril wood; which, after a very good run, was killed and well saved; several were moved on Marshfield-Down, but they did not shew much sport.

Nov. 27*th.*—Cast off on Marshfield-Down where one hare was started; which, after a good

run, was killed on Littleton-Down but not saved; another was started in the warren, and, after a good run, was lost.

Dec. 4th, 5th, and 6th.—Hunted the above days at Pucklechurch and Siston; killed but one hare. On the whole had but middling sport.

Dec. 9th.—Threw off on Kington-Manor where two hares were started that shewed very good sport; one only was killed and not saved. The scent was very good.

Dec. 13th.—Threw off on Marshfield-Down but had no sport there; one hare was started near to Kington-Down but was lost. A bad day's sport.

Dec. 18th.—Threw off at Littleworth, where plenty of hares were started; had continual running and good sport, but killed nothing.

Dec. 23d.—Threw off on Kington-Manor, where several hares were started that shewed very good sport; one only was killed and saved at Wheatridge barn.

Dec. 29th.—Started many hares about the warren and Acton-Turvil; killed three; two only were saved. A good day's sport.

Dec. 30th.—Went out with Mr. Northey's hounds, moved five hares at Tormarton and Acton; two were killed. A very good day's sport, the scent was good.

Jan. 4th.—Started many hares at Acton-Turvil and Littleton-Drew; three were killed, and two

only saved. A pretty good day's sport, but not a good scenting day.

Jan. 6*th.*—Went out with Mr. Northey's hounds; many hares were started at Littleton-Drew, but none killed. A good day's sport.

Jan. 16*th.*—Threw off at Littleton-Drew, where two hares were started; the last, after taking a long ring round the gosses, Alderton-grove, and near to the Duke of Beufort's park, was killed and well saved near Farmer Comley's barn. A very good day's sport, but had considerable rain.

Jan. 19*th.*—Started three hares on Samuel Frankcom's farm; one was killed and well saved. A good scenting day; the hares shewed excellent sport; the hounds and horses were nearly tired.

Jan. 22*d.*—Went out this day with the fox hounds; two foxes were killed. A good day's sport

Jan. 23*d.*—Started many hares in, and near, the warren; two were killed and well saved. The scent, as well as the sport, was very good.

Jan. 26.—Being a hard frost the scent was bad in the fore part of the day—in the afternoon somewhat better. Started many hares in Tormarton and Marshfield parishes and had most excellent runs; the scent was good in covert. On the whole a good day's sport but no death.

Jan. 30.—Started several hares in Harkcom wood; after a very good run one of them, after running nearly two miles in view, was killed and

saved in Wraxhall-Street, after running near two miles in view.

Feb. 6th.—Started many hares at Littleton-Drew; after several good runs, one was killed near Church-Yatton, and saved. A very good day's sport.

Feb. 10th.—This day went out with a few couple of young hounds, that started two hares near Tormarton; one ran to Dodington; the other after a very good run was killed and saved. A good day's sport.

Feb. 13th.—Started one hare in Harkcom bottom; two at Marshfield down; they were all killed; two were saved. A pretty good day's sport.

Feb. 20th.—Many hares were started at Tormarton and Acton-Turvil; not one killed. A bad scenting day, but not altogether bad sport.

Feb. 22d.—Started many hares at Acton-Turvil and Tormarton; much good running; one was killed and saved.

Feb. 26th.—Threw off on Kington-Down, where two hares were started, killed, and saved; after that a fox was unkennelled at Kington wood, who ran to Wick, by Luckington, where he was whipped off from; afterwards several hares were moved at Acton-Turvil, and near there two of them were said to be killed, and not saved. A good long day's sport.

March 2d.—This day threw off at Littleton-

Drew, many hares were started ; after having some some good runs, one was killed and saved. A good day's sport.

March 6th.—Started one hare on Mr. Comly's farm ; after a good run she was lost ; many more hares were moved at Littleton-Drew ; two were killed ; one was saved. A pretty good day's sport.

March 12th.—On Kington manor started two hares ; one was killed but not saved. A middling day's sport.

March 13th.—A bag fox was turned out before John Sargent's hounds, on Marshfield-Down, which shewed good sport.

March 17th.—Started at Littleton-Drew and Acton-Turvil several hares ; but owing to a bad scenting day, had no good sport.

March 23d.—Started one hare in Shirril brake, and one at Tormarton ; as the scent was bad, had no sport.

March 27th.—At Littleton-Drew and Acton-Turvil, many hares were started ; had many good runs, but no hare was killed.

April 7th.—Threw off again at Littleton-Drew; had a good deal of running ; ran on to Withymore wood ; had no death.

April 11th. —This being Easter Wednesday, two jack hares were turned out on Kington-Down ; after that one hare was started on Farmer Arnold's farm ; after a good run was killed and

saved; many more were started at Acton marsh. On the whole a good day's sport. The same day Mr. Hathway and myself dined at Badminton; the company present were, Mr. Ivyliefe, Dr. Cox, Mr. Marchant, Mr. Parker, Mr. J. Dowding, J. Nicholas, F. Arnold, and four keepers; had a very good dinner; and the company were well pleased.

Hunting Days in the whole Season were with

Mr. Hathway's hounds	41
Mr. Northey's ditto	2
The fox hounds	1
	44
Number of hares killed	64
Days that no hare was killed	9
Money given to the Huntsman	£7 15 6

OBSERVATIONS.

DURING the life of Mr. Hathway, Mr. Beard only knew what hares were killed on the hills; it was Mr. H.'s rule to hunt two days on the hills, and one day under them in each week; but J. B. very seldom hunted with Mr. H. under the hills; neither did Mr. B. know what persons the hares were given to until the said hounds were J. B.'s property.

HUNTING

IN

1798 *and* 1799.

THIS year our hunting commenced on *Tuesday* the 28*th* of *August*; and when we threw off on, and near Kington-Down; two hares were started; one was killed and well saved; the other was soon lost. The land was very dry, and no scent.

Sept. 4*th*.—Cast off on Kington-Down; two hares were moved; one was killed and saved; after a good run the other was lost. Considering the land being very dry, a very good day's sport.

Sept. 12*th*.—Started two hares near to Kington wood; a little one was soon killed; the other shewed good sport for two hours and a half; both were killed and well saved; another was moved in Farmer Arnold's Tunfurnol, which ran directly to Dodington park enclosure.

Sept. 18*th.*—Started at Kington-Down, Tormarton, and Nettleton, many hares ; killed three; two were well saved. The scent not good; considering the number of hares started, not much good sport.

Sept. 29*th.*—Started two hares on Kington-Down ; one was killed, not saved ; one started in my own park, was killed near to Kington great-house, and saved; two others were started in Kington wood and near thereto, but lost. On the whole a very good day's sport.

Oct. 3*d.*—The hounds thrown off at Marshfield-Down, where many hares were started ; three killed, after good running; one only was saved. In going home one was killed in its form, and saved. The scent in the forenoon was bad, in the afternoon very good. A very excellent day's sport.

Oct. 8*th.*—Threw off at Littleton brake ; when hares without number were started. A good deal of good running and fine sport ; three were killed; of which two were well saved.

Oct. 9*th.*—Mr. Northey's hounds started one hare in the warren, and one in the Bushey-Park; after good runs both were lost. I found them both sitting.

Oct. 12*th.*—This day went to Slaughterford ; where many hares were moved. Being a bad scenting day, not much good running ; two were killed and well saved.

Oct. 16*th.*—Started many hares at Littleton-

Drew, and near thereto; three were killed and well saved. A very good day's sport.

Oct. 20*th.*—This day may be called the last of this season, that we found good running hares, with a good scent, and they all ran over good ground, except one, and that went to the liberty; many were started at Tormarton and Acton-Turvil. Three were killed; two were saved; one by Lord Edward, which was well saved.

Oct. 27*th.*—Threw off at Kington-Down, where one hare was started; which was killed and well-saved. Not much good sport.

Oct. 31*st.*—Started two hares beyond Marsh-field; but owing to a bad scenting day, they were soon lost. A very bad day's sport.

Nov. 3*d.*—Started many hares at Acton-Turvil and Tormarton; killed three, two were saved. Good sport, but not much hard running.

Nov. 8*th.*—Started several hares in the parish of Kington; one was killed and well saved; another was killed in cover, and not saved. On the whole not a good day's sport, by some means or other the hounds did not hunt well all the day.

Nov. 14*th.*—Started one hare near to Kington village, which was soon killed, but not saved; one was moved near to Castle-Comb, which went over the brook there late in the afternoon. We proceeded to Acton marsh, where we found plenty of hares and sport, which lasted till after sun-set.

Nov. 17*th*—Threw off at Littleton-Drew, where

there were more hares than produced good sport; not much hard running, nor was one killed.

Nov. 24th.—Many hares were started at and near Acton marsh, who ran different ways; one to Badminton park; one to Kington wood; and some to Alderton grove. As the scent was good, there was excellent hard running; one hare was killed, not saved; and one rabbit, which was well saved. On the whole a good day's sport.

Nov. 26th.—We cast off at Acton marsh, where I found a hare sitting; which after some good runs was lost; another was found, but improperly turned out and unfairly killed, but well saved; a third was moved which went to Alderton grove,. Rain coming on further pursuit was given up. I was completely wet through.

Nov. 30th.—Threw off at Robin's wood, where we unkennelled a fox. Owing to Reynard and the hounds getting a mile a-head before it was known that any thing was started, all the horsemen were in a great measure thrown out. He went to earth at Long-Dean. The hounds ran and hunted him very well. After that we drew Marshfield-Down, where one hare was killed and saved, without any running. On the whole a middling day's sport.

Dec. 3d.—Threw off at Old-Lands and near thereto, where many hares were started, which shewed good sport. The hares being so plenty were often changed, which prevented more than one being killed, and that not saved. A good scenting day.

Dec. 7th.—After trying for a hare four hours, one was started in Farmer Arnold's turnips, which made for Dodington; but was turned, and took a ring round to Kington-Down, but went there at last. Owing to a very thick fog, the sound and sight of the hounds were soon lost. A very middling day's sport.

Dec. 17th.—Threw off at Kington-Down, where one hare was started, which took a long ring round by the Cross-hands to Dodington wood. Then went to Marshfield down, and started one hare, which ran some good rings, but drew off. Did not kill one; but it proved a good day's sport; the scent was very good.

Dec. 27th.—Being a hard frost, did not throw off at Kington-Down until between ten and eleven o'clock, where we started one hare; after taking a long ring, went to Dodington. After that there were many hares started at Tormarton and Acton-Turvil, which shewed good sport; several went to Badminton liberty; the last, which was a very stout one, stood several good rings, was well hunted, killed, and saved. On the whole an excellent day's sport.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27.

THIS DAY DIED

Mr. Edward Hathway,

AGED 69.

WORSE WAS THE LUCK FOR ME. J. BEARD.

Jan. 4*th.*—Took out the hounds in the way of airing them; started one hare in Harcomb; the frost being very hard, there was no scent.

Jan. 9*th.*—Threw off at Littleton-Drew, where two hares were started, which shewed good sport; one was killed and well saved. Although the land was very hard frozen, in the afternoon the sun shone very fine, and the air mild. There was good riding, and a very good day's sport.

Jan. 11*th.*—At Bitton, with Mr. Frances's hounds, four hares were killed; two saved. A tolerable day's sport.

Jan. 15*th.*—Threw off at Acton-Turvil marsh, where several hares were started, which shewed good sport; four were killed and well saved. A good scenting day; the hounds hunted exceedingly well; on the whole, it was the best day's sport that ever I enjoyed. The company were the three young Lords from Badminton, Dr. Penny, Mr. Hawkins, and many others.

Jan. 19*th.**—Cast off at Littleton-Drew, where many hares were started, which made good sport; but the hares being so plenty, and changed so often, that not one was killed. The same company as the last day, with many others, not less than twenty.

Jan. 22*d.*—Three hares were started near Tormarton, who went directly to Dodington; not one killed, and no great sport.

* The first day the hounds were put in my kennel.

Jan. 26*th.*—Started two hares on Kington-Down; one in Nettleton field; several more at Littleton-Drew; the scent was good in the beginning of the day, bad in the middle, and good at the end; two hares were killed and well saved. A smart day's sport, the company nearly the same as last Tuesday. Mr. Frances joined me this day.

From the 28*th* of *Jan.* to the 14*th* of *Feb.* there was a very deep snow, therefore there was no hunting until *Saturday* the 16*th Feb.* when we started a hare on Kington-Down; which after running four hours and upwards, and going three times through Kington wood, was killed and well saved. Considering the coldness of the air, and the bad state of the land, the hounds hunted well, and it proved a very good day's sport.

Feb. 21*st.*—Started one hare at Acton marsh, which after a good run was killed, and well saved; another was moved, which shewed good sport, but was lost in Nettleton field, where a substitute took her place; but as the weather began to lower for rain and thunder, the scent was but middling. Another was moved, and was soon killed without much running, having but three legs.

Feb. 25*th.*—Cast off at the warren barn; where a hare was found setting; which after running several good rings, was killed and well saved. Whilst paunching the same, another jumped up, was killed and well saved. More were started; some shewed good sport, but towards the latter part of the day the scent was not good.

March 1*st*.—Two hares were started beyond Marshfield; they were both killed and well saved; one stood but a short time; the other was a very stout one, and showed admirable sport; a third was found near Marshfield wood, which run in cover for some time; after taking a good ring the hounds were whipped off. This day I lamed my mare.

March 5*th*.—This day hunted at Didmarton, and dined there; had a great field, and plenty of hunting; but owing to the number of hares, not one was killed. The dinner was badly attended. The huntsman lamed his horse.

March 8*th*.—Started a hare at Kington-Down, which after running in and out of the thorns a few times, was lost; another was moved in Shirril brake, which after running a very hard and extensive ring, was killed near the place where first moved, but not saved; a third was moved in Harkcom, which went directly to Dodington. A very good day's sport.

March 11*th*.—Threw off at Acton-Marsh with Sodbury hounds, where many hare were started; two went to the liberty, which spoiled the hunt in that quarter; came to Kington-Down, where one was started, which after three hours exceedingly good hunting, the hounds were whipped off at Beeks. Not one was killed.

March 15*th*.—Started at Robin's wood and at Marshfield-Down; but the scent was so bad,

owing to the snow going off, that the hounds could not hunt at any rate; but one hare was found by me in West-Littleton, which the hounds hunted well for two hours, and were whipped off late in the afternoon, without killing it.

March 20th.—Cast off on Kington-Down, where one hare was found, and after running three hours of middling hunting, we lost her on the same Down. The day proved wet and cold; the scent was bad, and the sport not much better.

March 23d.—Threw off at Littleton-Drew, where many hares were started; had a great deal of good running; one was killed and well saved. A good day's sport.

March 27th.—Threw off on Kington-Down, where one hare was moved, which was killed and saved, after running one good ring. Two others were found at Acton-Turvil, which shewed good sport, both were killed; one saved. A very good day's sport.

March 29th.—This day being the *Easter Hunt*, many hares were started at Littleton-Drew, who shewed good sport; two were killed and saved. A most excellent day's sport; as the day proved very fine, it added much to our recreation, as the weather in general throughout the Winter was very unfavourable for hunting. We had a good dinner at Badminton which was well attended; about twenty persons dined, and were very well pleased with the sport and the entertainment.

Number of Hares killed, saved, and eaten, and when killed:—

	Killed.	Eaten.	
Aug. 28,	— 1	—	
Sept. 4,	— 1	—	
12,	— 2	—	
18,	— 2	— 1	
24,	— 3	— 1	
29,	— 1	— 1	
Oct. 3,	— 2	— 1	
9,	—	———	
12,	— 2	—	
16,	— 3	—	
20,	— 2	— 1	
27,	— 1	—	
30,	—	———	
Nov. 3,	— 2	— 1	
8,	— 1	— 1	
14,	—	— 1	
17,	—	———	
24,	—	— 1	
26,	— 1	—	
30,	— 1	—	
Dec. 3,	—	— 1	
7,	—	———	
17,	—	———	
Dec. 27,	— 1	—	
Jan. 1,	—	———	
9,	— 1	—	
11,	— 2	—2 *bitten*	
15,	— 4	—	
19,	—	———	
22,	—	———	
26,	— 1	—	
Feb. 16,	— 1	—	
21,	— 1	— 1	
25,	— 2	—	
Mar. 1,	— 2	—	
5,	—	———	
8,	—	— 1	
11,	—	———	
15,	—	———	
20,	—	———	
23,	— 1	—	
27,	— 2	— 1	
29,	— 2	—	
	41	15	*Tot*

Number of hares killed that were saved 41
Not saved 15

Total 56

Number of days that hares or a hare were killed 32
Number of days that no hare was killed .. 11
No blank day.

Field money £5 2 6.

Seventeen hares were started on Kington-Down this year.

Hares given to the following Persons:

Samuel Dowland,
Mr. Neve,
John Balding,
Thomas Comley,
Farmer Smyth,
Farmer Browning,
Mr. Poyntz,
Dr. Hardwick,
Mr. Bryan,
John Hall,
Farmer Chapel,
Duchess of Beaufort,
Ditto,
Mr. Golding,
John Nicholas,
Mr. Warman,
Mrs. Marchant,
Mr. Bryan,
Mr. Taylor, *Badminton*,
Mr. Osborne,
Mrs. Waite,
Mr. Frances,
Thomas Comley,
John Nicholas,
Mr. Richards,
Farmer Chapel.

OBSERVATIONS.

AT the beginning of the hunting season, the land was very dry (the harvest being a very fine one) bad hunting at the first set out; towards Christmas a little better; after that time until Easter the weather was very unfavorable; great part of that time was hard frost and deep snow, or cold rains. Never was the weather more unfavourable, take the season through. Before Mr. Hathway's death, he lost his bay horse (which he rode for many years) the huntsman's mare, and another horse in the staggers, which made rather a stagnation in the hunting; and Mr. H.'s death made it more so, which happened on the 27th *Dec.* 1798. After that it was a matter of dispute what the pack was to be done with. It appeared that Mr. H. had given the hounds, with his other property, to Mrs. H.; and Mrs. H. proposed presenting them to me, on these conditions—either to keep them myself, or to give them to any other person; but not to make a sale of them. The first thing which occurred to me, was to make an offer of the whole pack to his Grace the Duke of Beaufort: Dr. Penney thanked me for the offer, but in the name of his Grace declined having them. At the same time he offered me the Beaufort demesnes as a hunt, and likewise any materials that should be wanting towards erecting a

kennel; and Mr. Codrington also gave me permission to hunt on his manor in this neighbourhood. As another inducement I received a note from Mr. Ivyleafe, stating, that if I would keep the pack, he and his friends would subscribe one hundred pounds. Still I was undetermined, although Mrs. H. behaved remarkably kind, as to give many sacks of potatoes, greaves, barley-meal, tubs, and other utensils belonging to the former kennel. But as Mrs. B. seemed averse to the dogs being kept at Tormarton, it was some weeks before they were removed from Pucklechurch; ond on Saturday the 19th *Jan.* they were put into my kennel for the first time. For some time Mrs. B. objected to their remaining there, but the longer they were there, the more agreeable they appeared to her, and as Daniel Hurckum and his family were employed to provide and feed them, Mrs. B. was soon reconciled to their continuance; but before, I perfectly knew that, I had made some proposals to Mr. Frances to take them and divide the hunt with me. But after all, I thought it best to have no partner, nor to join with any person. At this time Farmer Corbet and others thought well to give up their hounds, many of which were put into my kennel, and some of my large sized ones were parted with. How long I shall like to keep them on my account only, I cannot at present pretend to say.

HUNTING

IN

1799 *and* 1800.

HUNTING this year commenced on *Tuesday* the 8*th* of *Oct.* 1799. Started many hares on Kington-Down; one was killed and well saved; another was killed but not saved. A very good day's sport, considering it the first time going out.

Oct. 10*th.*—Threw off again on Kington-Down, where many hares were started, which shewed good sport; three were killed and well saved. A very good day's sport.

Oct. 11*th.*—Threw off a third time on Kington-Down, where several hares were moved, there and near it; two were killed and saved. A tolerably good day's sport.

Oct. 19*th.*—Went this day beyond Marshfield, where three hares were started, who ran a considerable time; partioularly the first; but were all

lost, without killing either of them. It was not a good scenting day, therefore not much sport.

Oct. 22d.—Started many hares on and near Kington-Down; had a great deal of running, but not good hunting; one only was killed and that not saved; the scent not very good.

Oct. 25th.—Several hares were moved on Kington manor, and Harkcom, had some good running, but no death. A middling day's sport.

Oct. 30th.—Threw off at Acton-Turvil, where many hares were started; one of them ran to the liberty, and it was with great difficulty the hounds could be got out. The day proving exceedingly foggy, spoiled the sport; two hares were killed and well saved. Several more were supposed to be killed in the plantations. A great deal of good running.

Nov. 4th.—This day tried on Kington-Down, where one hare was found, which shewed good sport, by making several good rings, was killed and well saved. The weather was very wet and unpleasant, therefore did not try any further.

Nov. 7th.—Cast off on Marshfield-Down, where and in its vicinity four hares were found, and one on Kington manor; but on the whole they shewed little sport; two of them were killed in their forms; the other three ran very little. It was very extraordinary, that out of five hares, not one of them shewed any sport; two of them were well saved; the other three not so well. According to the

number of hares started, a very middling day's sport. Lord Worcester was out to-day.

Nov. 9th.—Threw off at Acton-Turvil, where where we had plenty of hares, who ran well and shewed very good sport. The hounds ran and hunted exceedingly well; but owing to the number of hares, there was not one killed; but a rabbit was.

Nov. 11th.—Threw off this day at Littleton-Drew, where we found hares in great plenty, that shewed good sport. The hounds behaved exceedingly well; two hares were killed; one the hounds had; the other was badly saved. Considering the bad state of the land, had a very good day's sport.

Nov. 14th.—A hare this day was found on Littleton-Down sitting, which after a very good run was killed and well saved; another was found in Littleton field, that ran well, and shewed good sport, but was whipped off.

Nov. 20th.—Started on Kington-Down and near it two hares; they shewed good sport in the thorns only; plenty of views and view-hallows were given. They were both killed and well saved; not a good scenting day.

Nov. 23d.—Started this day in one of Farmer Arnold's fields two hares, which shewed very good sport; one of them was killed in the pond in Tormarton street, the other on Kington-Down; they were both well saved; another was started in

Harkcom bottom, but owing to the leaves the hounds did not hunt well in cover.

Nov. 26th.—Threw off in a cover beyond Saddlewood, where 2 hares were started, which shewed good sport; they were both whipped off, one in Mr. Escourt's, and the other in the Duke of Beaufort's park. The scent was very good, and the runs were very sharp. Another was run and killed, but not saved.

Nov. 29th.—Threw off again at the same place, where a hare was started, that ran directly to Mr. Escourt's park and back again; two more hares were started, but not much more good running; one only was killed and not saved.

Dec. 2d.—Cast off on Kington-Down, where two hares were started, which ran two hours, without making many rings, and were both killed and well saved; another was started near Farmer Comley's corn, which shewed good sport, was killed and well saved. A very good day's sport.

Dec. 5th.—This day many hares were started at Littleton brake, which shewed good sport; but owing to the hares being so plenty, only one was killed and well saved; the last which went the best rings, ran to the liberty, but the hounds were headed.

Dec. 14th.—One hare was moved on Kington-Down, which ran some good rings; the scent but middling; some very sharp and some very slow running, but she was lost; another sprung up

on Marshfield manor; with great difficulty the hounds ran her some distance, and back again to the place where she was first started; was killed and well saved. A middling day's sport.

Dec. 16*th.*—This day hunted at Saddlewood, where two or three hares were started; two of them shewed good sport. Considering the hardness of the frost, the hounds hunted very well; one hare only was killed, and that well saved.

Dec. 26*th.*—Threw off on Kington-Down, where one hare was moved, although the frost was very hard, she shewed good sport, not less then six different times we gave her fresh starts, and killed her near Acton-Turvil, but not saved. The frost being so very hard we all chose to run a-foot. Another was started in Nettleton field, killed and well saved. A tolerable day's sport.

Jan. 3*d,* 1800.—Threw off at Littleton brake, where a martin was found, which after running some distance mounted a tree; was soon brought down and killed, being the first that J. B. ever saw. Many hares were afterwards started, and considering the state of the land, had a good day's sport, one hare was killed and well saved.

Jan. 8*th.*—This day many hares were started at Acton-Turvil, who shewed good sport, though not one was killed.

Jan. 10*th.*—Threw off this day again at Acton-Turvil, where we found hares in great plenty, who ran exceedingly well; particularly one that was

moved in Littleworth, which after a very smart run, was killed and well saved, near to Farmer Holbrow's barn beyond Harkcom. A better run has been but seldom seen. Lord Wm. Somerset very much enjoyed the sport.

Jan. 11*th.*—This day went on Kington-Down about two o'clock, where we soon found a hare, which shewed good sport for three hours, in makin several rings; it was not a good scenting day, the hounds had great difficulty to make her out, but always hit off the faults without being lifted or assisted; between 5 and 6 o'clock she was killed and saved in Kington field. A very good afternoon's sport, it was hardly light when she was killed.

Jan. 13*th.*—This day hunted at Pucklechurch with Mr. Frances's hounds, where a fox was found, but soon lost. After that a hare was started, which shewed pretty good sport, was killed and saved.

Jan. 14*th.*—Threw off at Acton-Turvil, where many hares were found; had good running in the morning, but the latter part of the day the scent did not lay so well, being very wet and cold. On the whole a pretty good day's sport, but no death.

Jan. 16*th.*—This day hunted in the warren, where many hares were started, but they all ran to Badminton liberty. It was one of the best scenting days all the season; so much the worse, as it caused much hard riding for the horses,

without good sport, or death. This day J. B. received a fall, or rather a pull off his mare.

Jan. 18*th.*—This day threw off on Marshfield-Down, where one hare was started, which after running several good rings in the thorns, took one at a distance; but not being able to return, was killed and well saved; another was soon moved, which stood up before the hounds a great while, made many good rings, and was lost in Harkcom. A good day's sport.

Jan. 24*th.*—On taking out the hounds in order to air them, in Farmer Comfey's turnips, a hare was started, the land being much frozen, and the scent bad, she was soon lost.

Jan. 25*th.*—Threw off at Acton-Turvil, where several hares were started; the two first ran to the liberty; one was brought out of Alderton grove, which after four hours hunting, was killed in a brake, a little beyond Burton, and well saved. A pretty good day's sport, but not a good scenting day.

Jan. 28*th.*—One hare was started on Kington-Down, and after running a few rings was lost; another was moved in the field, which after running some good rings was killed in Shirrel brake, and well saved, after four hours good running.

Jan. 30*th.*—This day threw off at Littleton-Drew, where many hares were moved, who shewed a good and long day's sport. The hounds this day hunted exceedingly well; one hare only was killed and well saved.

Feb. 4*th.*—Two hares were started this day on Kington-Down, and after good runs, one was lost; the other was killed and well saved; more were hunted, one lost, one ran to Badminton, and another was killed and well saved. A very fine day's sport.

Feb. 6*th.*—Threw off this day on Kington-Down, where several hares were started, who shewed very good sport. Many of them appeared to be ran down, but fresh ones being moved, one only was killed and well saved. The hounds ran and hunted this day exceedingly well, and the hares were in high spirits. An excellent day's sport.

Feb. 10*th.*—Started one hare near to Kington-Down, which, after a short run, was killed and well saved. The frost being very hard no other hare was tried for.

Feb. 11*th.*—Threw off at Littleton brake, where many hares were started, who shewed good sport, considering the hardness of the frost. It was mostly a foot hunt, as it was not safe to ride; no death.

Feb. 15*th.*—This day on taking out the hounds in order to air them, tried Harkcom, where two hares were started; the land being very hard frozen, there was no scent, therefore no sport.

Feb. 17*th.*—This day tried Kington-Down, field, and all the way to Kington-Wick, without finding one hare; near to Nettleton houses one hare

was found that shewed some little sport, was killed, and well saved.

Feb. 19*th.*—Went this day to Beeks, but did not find, until late in the afternoon, when one hare was found sitting; but being unfairly turned out, was soon killed and saved. Then went to Marshfield-Down, where one hare was on foot, that run many good rings, but night coming on, was on that account compelled to whip off.

Feb. 22*d.*—This day went to Sodbury camps, where three hares were found sitting, who shewed fine sport; one of them after taking one good ring ran to Badminton liberty; the second ran many good rings, was killed and well saved; the the third ran several good rings, but was lost.

March 3*d.*—This day after trying over a great deal of land, one hare was found sitting, which after running one ring, was killed and well saved. A good run considering the land was still frozen.

March 5*th.*—Threw off on Kington-Down, where one hare was found, which after running several hours was lost. Not a good scenting day; some good running and some very slow; no death.

March 8*th.*—Took out the hounds on and near Kington-Down, by way of airing them; however two hares were started, but the frost being so hard it was impossible for the hounds to hold the scent, therefore no great sport.

March 11*th.*—This day one hare was moved on Kington-Down; another in Nettleton parish,

which stood up before the hounds a considerable time. Owing to the frost going off, and the snow melting, the scent was very bad; they both ran to Kington wood, and being very unwilling to leave the cover, were lost therein.

March 13*th.*—Started again on Kington-Down, two hares; the scent was very bad in running the first; and altogether well in the latter; the first was lost, the other went to Dirham liberty; no death, nor much sport.

March 15*th.*—After trying many hours, one hare was found near to Harkcom, which ran one good ring; the scent was very bad, therefore the hounds hunted very slow, and at last lost her. No death, and not much sport.

March 18*th.*—This day went to Slaughterford, where one hare was started, which ran one good ring, and many shorter ones, was killed in cover and well saved. A good hunt.

March 20*th.*—Threw off at Littleton brake, where many hares were started; but owing to a bad scenting day, only the last hare shewed sport; she was killed at Lord's wood in the parish of Sherston, and well saved. A very sharp run.

March 22*d.*—Threw off at Acton-Turvil, where plenty of hares were found; whether owing to the scent or some other cause, the hounds did not hunt well in the fore part of the day; there were, however, several good runs in the latter part of it; two hares were killed, one well saved, and the other badly.

March 25*th.*—Threw off at Littleton-Drew, where many hares were started, which shewed good sport; the scent this day was pretty good, and the hounds very well indeed; one hare was killed, and well saved.

March 31*st.*—Had a most excellent day's sport at Littleton-Drew; whether two or more hares were ran, is hard to say; the scent was very good, and the hounds ran and hunted as well as ever any hounds possibly could.

April 16*th.*—Being *Easter Wednesday*, threw off at Littleton-Drew, where many hares were started, which shewed good sport; two of them were killed and well saved; had a good field out this day. Went to the public-house at Badminton, where we had a good dinner, which was well enjoyed by all who partook of it; about 20 in all.

April 23*d.*—This day joined Sargent's hounds at Ford, went and drew Norwood bottom, park, and Marshfield woods, in order to try for a fox, but could not find one; but in trying a little cover near to Colerne-Down, a hare was killed and saved, without any running or sport.

Number of hunting days were	55
Days that no hare was killed	15
Number of hares killed and saved	55
Not saved	5
Total	60

No blank day.

Field money £7 13 9.

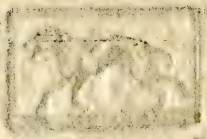
Two rabbits and a martin were killed.

Hares given away in 1799 *and* 1800 :—

Mr. Poyntz,
Thomas Wart,
Captain Lambert,
Mr. Hiatt,
Mrs. Osborne,
Myself,
James Wickham,
William Felton,
Deputy-Keeper,
Mr. Codrington,
Mr. Golding,
Mr. Hiatt,
Samuel Tily,
Myself,
Wm. Osborne,
Wm. Arnold,
Mr. Swayn,
Mrs. Hathway,
F. Comley,
Wm. Golding,
S. Toghill,
John Nicholas a rabbit,
J. Balding,
F. Eyles,
F. Arnold,
F. Pincot,
F. Eyles,
Mr. Meyler,
His Grace,
C. Codrington,
His Grace,
E. Isaac,
Mr. Hazard,
Mr. Hiatt,
J. Nicholas,
G. Phillips,
A. Jones,
Mr. Coats,
Myself,
Short,
C. Codrington,
J. Bennett,
Mrs. Tucker,
F. Chapel,
Hawkings,
Mr. Warman,
J. Coats,
C. Dowland,
J. Hatherel,
J. Rudley.

OBSERVATIONS.

THE season, to take the Winter through, was very unfavourable for hunting, owing to a very wet and cold backward harvest: it was late in the autumn before there was much hunting; and during the winter the land was either wet, covered with snow, or a hard frost.



HUNTING

IN

1800 *and* 1801.

HUNTING this year commenced on *Monday August 25th*, 1800, on Sodbury common; but not finding there, we tried Horton common, where we ran three hares, which, considering the first time of going out, and the land being very dry, shewed a good day's sport. Two hares were killed and well saved.

Sept. 4th.—Threw off again at Sodbury and Horton common, where four hares were started, which shewed good sport; they were all killed and well saved.

Sept. 9th.—This day found a hare in my park, which after a smart run was killed and well saved, but in a very particular manner; the hare leapt over a wall and threw us all out, but when we came up with the hounds they seemed to have lost

the hare, or killed and eat her, but their mouths were not bloody; in drawing round, the hare was found dead, but not in the least torn. We then went to Kington-Down, where we ran one hare for several hours, but owing to thunder the scent failed, and was lost On the whole a good day's sport.

Sept. 12*th.*—This day threw off at Littleton-Drew, where we had plenty of hares and good running; two were killed, one the hounds had, the other was well saved. A very good day's sport.

Sept. 15*th.*—This day hunted at Sodbury and Horton common, where three hares were started, who shewed good sport; two of them were killed and well saved, the other was lost. Although the weather still continued warm and the land dry, the hounds ran and hunted very well.

Sept. 18*th.*—Threw off at Acton-Turvil marsh, where we found plenty of hares. Owing to the rain that fell in the night, it was the best scenting day we had this season, therefore we had great plenty of good running, not less than seven hares were killed, five of them were well saved. A very good day's sport.

Sept. 20*th.*—Went this day to West-Littleton, where three hares were started; the hounds ran the first but middling; the two last were killed and well saved.

Sept. 22*d.*—This day threw off at Acton-Turvil, where we found plenty of good hares, as the scent

was very good, they shewed good sport; three hares were killed and well saved; another was killed, which the hounds eat.

Sept. 25th.—Went to Littleton-Drew, where many hares were started; some shewed good sport; others but middling, being young ones they were soon killed; not less than three brace were killed; one half were well saved, the others the hounds eat; the first and last shewed good sport.

Sept. 27th.—This day went beyond Marshfield, where we found no hare; what was still worse, we were most completely soaked, having a very wet coat.

Sept. 29th.—Threw off at Marshfield-Down, where two hares were started; but several hard storms of rain spoiled the scent, and there was but little sport; one more was moved near Comley Farm, and the scent being no better, she was soon lost. Then went to Kington-Down, no hare found there; tried my own parks, where one jumped up; which, after a most excellent run, was killed and well saved.

Oct. 2d.—Tried Farmer Arnold's wheat stubble, where one hare was found sitting, but she went directly to Dodington. Then tried Kington-Down, but found no hare; thence went to Farmer Arnold's turnips, where one was found sitting which shewed good sport, though hunted and killed by three couple of hounds only. Several

more were moved and killed. In the whole five were killed, two only were saved, the last hare ran to Badminton, so the day's sport ended. Had a great field, but middling sport.

Oct. 8th.—Tried Farmer Arnold's wheat stubbles, but did not find; one was found sitting near Harkcom; after a pretty good run she was killed and well saved; another was started on Kington-Down, and after a good run was lost. A very wet day, which caused it not to be a good day's sport.

Oct. 8th.—Started two hares in the brake between the lower park and the turnpike-road; one large, the other a small one; the large one ran well and shewed good sport, the other ran but little; they were both killed and well saved. Another was moved near West-Littleton field, which stood up full three hours; the scent towards the last began to fail, and she was lost; we gave her several fresh starts, and three times the hounds nearly caught her.

Oct. 11th.—This day tried West-Littleton field and Robin's wood, without finding; then went to Marshfield-Down, where we found two hares; a little one was soon killed; the other a very stout one, and had not a person thrown a stick at her and broke one of her legs, she would have shewed good sport. They were both killed and well saved. Not a good day's sport.

Oct. 14th.—Threw off this day at Littleton Drew, where many hares were started; three were

killed; one on the foss-road, and one near to Grittleton, and well saved. The other was killed in Allerton street, and not saved. A better day's sport I never enjoyed; the hounds and hares ran exceedingly well.

Oct. 17*th.*—This day threw off in the warren, where one hare was started, which ran directly to Badminton. Then went to Acton marsh, where many good hares were hunted, that shewed excellent sport; four were killed; two were well and two badly saved. The scent being very good, not a bad day's sport.

Oct. 20*th.*—This day went to Sodbury and Horton commons, where five hares were started; three very stout ones; they were all killed and saved, except the small ones. The hares and hounds ran exceedingly well; and it proved a very excellent day's sport.

Oct. 23*d.*—This day threw off at Littleton-Drew, where three hares were moved; which after good runs were killed and well saved; and many others were started and whipped off. A great day's sport.

Oct. 27*th.*—Threw off on Kington-Down, where a hare or two were started; but owing to rain the scent was very bad, therefore very indifferent sport, and we got ourselves completely wet through.

Oct. 29*th.*—Threw off again on Kington-Down, where one hare was started; the scent not being very good, it was some time before she chose to

quit the thorns, when she did, she ran to the warren-house and was lost; a small one was killed in the warren without much running; another was moved, which ran well and was killed; another was killed in its form near to Farmer Comley's; they were all three well saved; but it was not a good day's sport.

Nov. 1st.—This day started two hares on Kington-Down, one of them ran a good while without leaving the thorns, and was lost; when another was started, which ran directly to Dodington, we then went beyond Marshfield, where two hares were moved, they were both killed, one was well and the other not saved; then went to Kington-Down, where another was started again, which ran to Alderton grove. On the whole a good long day's sport.

Nov. 5th.—Went this day to Codrington, where two hares were started, and were both killed and well saved; for young hares they ran well.

Nov. 8th.—Started one hare on Kington-Down, which ran directly to Dodington; then went to Marshfield woods, where two hares were started, they both ran to cover, and were safe, owing to the great quantity of leaves falling, and consequently a bad scenting day. A very middling day's sport.

Nov. 11th.—This day went to Sodbury common; after trying for some time, one hare was started, which taking one good ring into Horton common,

she ran through Maple-Rudge, and was killed in a brook near to Mr. Sturge's, at Yate, and well saved. It was the best sport we had this season, she was a very stout hare and ran well, and the hounds hunted exceedingly well.

Nov. 13*th.*—This day started two hares on Kington-Down; one was soon lost, the other killed and well saved without much running; another was moved in my park, that went one good ring and was lost.

Nov. 15*th.*—This day tried over a large track of land, without success; at last one hare was found sitting in F. Arnold's turnips, by Mr. Poyntz, which was improperly turned out and killed without any running; another was started that ran directly to Dodington. A bad day's sport.

Nov. 18*th.*—This day went to Saddlewood, where several hares were started; two of them were killed, one saved. They mostly ran from cover to cover; not much good sport.

Nov. 22*d.*—This day threw off beyond Dunley, where two hares were moved, who shewed good sport; they were both killed and well saved. In coming through Littlefield another was started, which ran well for some time, when a fresh one jumped up, which, after a very small run, was killed near to the Elmand Ash, but not saved. Not only a good, but long day's sport.

Nov. 25*th.*—A hare this day was moved a little beyond Burton, which, after running one good ring,

was lost; another, put up near Sevington, like the former, after one ring was lost. Middling sport.

Nov. 29th.—Threw off on Kington-Down; not finding there, one was found in my tining that ran a few rings in the thorns but was lost; then went to Acton Marsh, where one was moved which was soon killed and eat; another was moved which shewed a great deal of good cold hunting; but at last went to the liberty. The hounds hunted with great difficulty for three hours, the company declaring they never saw hounds try to hunt so well.

Dec. 6th.—This day went to Slaughterford, but it proved a blank day.

Dec. 9th and 10th.—Went to Compton-Dando, where many hares were moved, who shewed good sport. The first day was a very bad scenting one; the other somewhat better. Several of the hares went to Norton Park, and others to Gen. Popham's park, therefore no hare was killed. It was very unlucky that the scent was so bad.

Newton

Dec. 17th.—Started one hare on Kingston-Down, after a good run was lost; after that several stout ones were started in the warren and Acton marsh, which shewed good sport; one only was killed and well saved. Mr. Bence, of Compton-Dando, was out this day.

Dec. 22d.—Went to Marshfield-Down, where one hare was started, which, after running a few rings in the thorns, was killed and well saved;

another was found near the same place and killed without much running; then went to Kington-Down, where another was found that ran for some time thereon, was killed and well saved. Not a very bad day's sport.

Dec. 26th.—This day went to Acton-Marsh and Littleton-Drew, where several stout hares were hunted; the first ran several good rings, was killed and well saved; the others ran mostly an end; one of them ran from Littleton-brake to Staunton; another went we knew not where, as we were all completely thrown out.

Jan. 2d.—This proved a very good scenting day; several stout hares were moved at Acton-Turvil, who shewed good sport; particularly one that jumped up as we were returning home, which ran near to Castle-Comb and back again; but whiped off because we did not wish to kill her. The worse part of the hunt was changing hares so often; two were killed and well saved.

Jan. 7th.—Threw off at Littleton-Drew, were many hares were moved that shewed good sport; as we often changed, there was but one killed and saved. Had a good field not less than fifteen horsemen.

Jan. 10.—This day tried on Kingston-Down, had a trail, but did not find; then went to Marsh-field-Down, where one hare was found, which after running several rings in the thorns, and one

out was killed. The scent was middling, the hounds made it out well, but slow.

Jan. 18th.—Threw off at Acton-Turvil, where we found plenty of good hares; and as the scent was very good they shewed most excellent sport; I think three were killed. It was the best scenting day we had this season.

Jan. 16th.—This day three hares were started near to Acton-Turvil; one was killed without much running; the other two were very stout ones, therefore they shewed good sport; one of them was entirely run down, when the other jumped up, and after a good run, was killed.

Jan. 20th.—Threw off again near to Acton-Turvil, where we had plenty of good running, but not able to kill one hare.

Jan. 22d.—This day threw off at Littleton-Drew, where we had plenty of middling running in the morning; part of the day the scent did not lay well, but in the afternoon the scent mended, and the hounds hunted and killed the last hare in a very good stile; the hounds ran in and caught her by fair running.

Jan. 27th.—Threw off near to Acton-Turvil, where many hares were very hard ran, for five hours, but being often changed, had no death; but a better day's sport could not possibly be had. Plenty of Lords and Clergy were out this day.

Jan. 29th.—This day hunted at Littleton-Drew, where three hares were hunted; the two first, after

they shewed good sport, were killed. Then went towards Gay's Mill, where one hare was started, which ran directly to Castle-Combe, where we lost considerable time in getting out the hounds; then came back to Littleton-Drew, where another hare was started, which ran four good rings, and as many times went to Alderton-grove wood, where we whipped off. A better day's sport no person could wish for.

Feb. 2*d.*—Threw off on Kington-Down; not finding there, went to Robin's-wood, where we joined the Bath hounds and soon had a hare up; after running two rings, with both packs, was lost in the same wood. After parting the packs we tried Shirril brake, where one hare was soon up; after running well for some time, was killed in the same brake.

Feb. 5*th.*—Went this day to Sodbury-Common; did not find there, but in Horton-Common one hare or more were found, who ran well and shewed good sport, considering the country. One hare was killed and well saved.

Feb. 10*th.*—Threw off on Kington-Down; not finding there, but near Kington-wood one or two hares were started, but the hounds did not hunt them well. Soon after the hares were up, two foxes broke cover; one of them the hounds ran and hunted very well for about seven or eight miles, and then whiped off. A rabbit was killed and well saved, but no hare.

Feb. 18.—For several days past the frost had been very hard, and but little thaw to day; but went to Acton-Marsh, where several stout hares were well ran, particularly the last; after taking two good rings, went in a strait line near to Shirston, where the same was killed and well saved. It was a good day's sport as ever was seen; as the frost was very hard, contrary to our expectation, the scent was very good, and the hounds ran very fleet.

Feb. 21.—Threw off at Nettleton-Marsh, where one hare was started, that, after a good run was killed and well saved. We had a great deal of good running in the course of the day; one other hare was killed and well saved.

Feb. 23*d.*—This day one hare was started in Nettleton-Marsh; another near to Littleton-Drew, that shewed most excellent sport as ever was seen; the hounds hunted amazingly well all the day; the hares ran nearly two hours each; they were both killed and well saved.

Feb. 25*th.*—Two hares this day were started near to Littleton-Drew, that ran over a great length of ground, and shewed good sport, but not equal to the last day; one hare was killed and well saved.

Feb. 28*th.*—This day threw off beyond Badminton, where we had plenty of good running and a great deal of good sport; one hare was killed and well saved, near to Sherston; the hounds ran

twice into Sandgrove wood. A very hard day's work for the hounds and horses.

March 3*d.*—Threw off this day in Nettleton-Marsh, where many hares were started, and near thereto, as the scent was very good; three hares were killed and well saved. A very good day's sport.

March 6*th.*—Threw off on Kington-Down; but not finding there, went to Shirril-Brake, where we tried a martin; but after getting him down and running him for some time, a hare got up, which, for the present, saved his life; after running the hare two or three rings she was killed in Harkcom-wood, and not saved; then went in pursuit of the martin, which was soon found, and after running and shewing good fun for some time, was killed.

March 10*th.*—Went this day beyond Marsh-field, where two hares were started, who shewed but middling sport; the first, after running some time, was lost; the other ran mostly in cover, except two rings which was very smart running. This last we whipped off from, therefore no death.

March 12*th.*—Threw off in Sodbury-Common; not finding there, tried Maple-Rudge, and near thereto, where a fox broke cover; after running in Maple-budge for some time, seven of the hounds ran him very hard to Chantler's-Cliff, where he went to earth. Several hares were ran mostly in cover; no death, nor much sport.

March 17*th and* 18*th.*—Hunted on these days at Saddlewood, where many hares were ran; some

of them very well; one was killed and saved. The sport was as well as we expected.

Number of Days hunted in each Month.

Augtst 1, .. killed	2	*Jan.* 9, ...	11
Sept. 10, ...	29	*Feb.* 8, ...	10
Oct. 10, ...	26	*March* 4, ...	7
Nov. 10, ...	12		
Dec. 6, ...	6	In all 58. Total	103

Field money £7 0 0.

Days that no hare was 12.

Hares given away in 1800 *and* 1801 :—

Mr. Brooks,
Ourselves,
Mr. Brooks,
Wm. Young, of Little Sodbury,
Mr. Poyntz,
Mrs. Osbornes,
Thos. Comley,
Mr. Dowling,
The Hounds,
Mr. A. Tanner,
F. Cam,
Duke of Beaufort
Myself,
James Hatharil,
Wm. Osborn,
Mr. Swayn,
The Hounds,
The Hounds,
John Snell,
F. Eyles,
The Duke of Beaufort
Mr. Bryan,
Mrs. Brown,
The Hounds,
Christopher Codrington Esq.
Wm. Osborn,
John Coats,
The Hounds,
The Hounds,
Edward Isaac,

ohn Codrington,	—— Short,
Ir. Hiatt,	Charles Osborn,
he Hounds,	Samuel Tily,
he Hounds,	Mr. Pincot,
he Hounds,	The Hounds,
ohn Nicholas,	Isaac Lane,
Vm. Golding,	The Hounds,
Iyself,	Mrs. Comley,
ohn Balding,	The Hounds,
Iyself,	Harry Pocock,
Vm. Coats,	Wm. Osborne,
ohn Hole,	Mrs. Wait,
he Hounds,	The Hounds,
r. Penney,	Thomas Alding,
ohn Skate,	His Grace,
he Hounds,	Mr. Meyler,
Ir. Bruton,	The Duchess of Beaufort,
Ir. J. Harvy,	Charles Osborne,
Ir. Walliss,	The Duchess of Beaufort,
muel Tily,	Mr. Bryan,
Chapel,	Mrs. Ann Jones,
ohn Cambridge,	Mr. Phillips,
Irs. Hathway,	Mr. Phillips,
homas Comley,	The Duchess of Beaufort,
homas Tily,	Mr. Hazard,
Ir. Poyntz,	Farmer Browning,
ohn Balding,	James Wickham,
he Hounds,	A rabbit, myself,
Ir. Higgs,	Lord William,
Codrington, Esq.	John Antsey,

Thomas Tily,	Thomas Comley,
Duke of Beaufort,	Stephen Tuckey,
Mr. Warman,	The Hounds,
George Haukings,	A martin cat,
John Nicholas,	Mr. John Pincot,
Duchess of Beaufort,	The Hounds.

OBSERVATIONS.

THIS season proved a very remarkable one, as there was but very little frost or snow during the whole winter; there was but very few days that were lost. Had good luck with the hounds and and the horses, they were stout and strong all through the season. Never had so much good sport in one season before, and without any accident to ourselves, horses, or hounds: as for hares we had them plenty on the Duke's manor but not so elsewhere.

HUNTING

IN

1801 *and* 1802.

HUNTING this year commenced on *Thursday September* 3, 1801, in my piece of cinque foil, where one hare was started, which, after a smart run, was killed and well saved.

Sept. 5th.—Threw off this day on Kington-Down, where two hares were moved; as the scent was bad they shewed but little sport; another was started in Shirril-brake, which was killed and eat without any running; another was started in Kington-field, which, after a smart run, was killed and well saved.

Sept. 8th.—Threw off again on Kington-Down; after trying for some time, one hare was started, but was soon lost; another was killed without any running. A very bad day's sport.

Samson

Sept. 9*th.*—Tried again on Kington-Down, where one hare was soon up, which ran many good rings, different ways, was killed and well saved. The hounds ran and hunted exceedingly well, considering their high condition.

Sept. 14*th.*—This day started two hares on Kington-Manor, who ran exceedingly well, but did not stand long before the hounds; they were both killed and well saved.

Sept. 16*th.*—Threw off in Nettleton-Field, where two hares were moved; one of them ran directly to Acton-Turvil-marsh, where a small one took the other's place, and was killed; then drew off to the same field, where we started a second hare, which was killed without much running; they were both well saved. A very middling day's sport.

Sept. 19*th.*—Went this day to Sodbury-Common, where six hares were stated; four of them were killed and well saved in the following manner: As we were were going through Little Sodbury Common-mead, two hares were sitting in the hedge near the road; the hounds winded them, and they were put up one at a time, and both killed without any running; the next was moved in Old Sodbury-Common, which, after running several short rings, was killed; another stout hare was started that ran well, until a small one got up in its place, from which we whipped off; the hunted hare was lost; another was started, which

shewed very good sport; she ran until she fairly laid down and cried out in the same manner as she would have done if a hound had caught her, and was taken up alive. As the land was now in a proper state, the scent was very good; the land before was too dry. A very good day's sport.

Sept. 22*d.*—This day threw off on Kington-Down, where one hare was soon up, which ran one good ring and was lost; then tried Nettleton-Marsh, where one hare was soon started; being a small one was killed without much running: then drew Acton-Turvil field, where two hares were hunted that shewed good sport; two of the said hares were killed and well saved, the other not.

Sept. 24*th.*—This day went to Slaughterford, where two hares were hunted; the first ran several good rings, was killed and well saved; the other was caught but not killed; she ran into a swallow hole, was taken out alive, and turned out before the hounds, but, after running through a few fields, was lost.

Sept. 26*th.*—Threw off on Kington-Down, where several hares were started, who ran many different rings; the last went to the Turnpike-road towards Nettleton-field, and was killed by Mr. Russ's greyhounds. Then went to Nettleton-Marsh, where more hares were started; two of them were killed and well saved. A good day's sport.

Sept. 28*th.*—This day tried over a great length of land without finding a hare; at last one was found on Lapdown farm, which, after one ring, went to Dodington-Liberty; another was moved on Nettleton-manor, which, after running through a few fields, was killed and well saved. A very middling day's sport.

Sept. 30*th.*—Threw off on and about Marsh-field-Down, where two hares were started; the first was soon lost; the other, after running into the thorns some time, went to Gibing's-wood, was killed therein and not saved; then came to King-ton-Down, where a martin was treed but soon fetched down and killed; then a hare was started on farmer Arnold's farm, which, after running some time, was lost near Dirham field. On the whole a middling day's sport.

Oct. 2*d.*—This day threw off at Littleton-Drew, where three hares were started and killed; also a rabbit and a hedge-hog; two of the hares were well saved, the other not; several other hares were well hunted. Not only a fine day's sport, but a very long one, and had a good field.

Oct. 6*th.*—In the course of this day three hares were started, who ran exceedingly well, and shewed good sport; the first was found in one of my fields, which, after running several good rings, was lost, by another getting up in its place on Kington-Down, which ran through my farm, Mr. Arnold's, and Mr. Frankcom's, and back again to the Down,

and was killed near it. The third was moved just below the warren barn, which ran to Acton-Turvil and Nettleton-Marsh, where she was killed. They were both well saved; and a better day's sport I never wish to see.

Oct. 9*th.*—This day two hares were started; one on Kington-Manor, which, after running for some time, was lost; another was found sitting in my park turnips, which, after one good ring, was also lost in the same field. A middling day's sport.

Oct. 13*th.*—This day went to Sodbury and Horton-Common, where three hares were hunted; the first ran well and shewed good sport; the second ran but a little way; the third seemed but a small one, from which we whipped off; the two first were killed and well saved. The sport was pretty well for the country.

Oct. 15*th.*—Went on Kington-Down for a morning's ride, where one hare was started; but was soon lost, without much sport.

Oct. 16*th.*—This day two very stout hares were started; one on Kington-Down, the other near the warren barn, who shewed as fine sport as any two hares which we have hunted this season; they were both killed and well saved.

Oct. 19*th.*—After trying for some time one hare was started between Burton and Nettleton, which, after running for some time, was killed near Acton-Turvil; another was soon up, which ran well and shewed very good sport, was killed near the

Duke's park; they were both well saved; another was hunted from which we whipped off.

Oct. 21st.—This day threw off at Acton-Turvil, where several good hares were hunted, which shewed very fine sport. It was one of the best day's sport we had this season; two hares were killed, but one only was saved.

Oct. 23d.—Went this day to Littleton-Drew, where we had plenty of hares, good running, and fine sport, but not epual to the last day; three hares were killed and well saved.

Oct. 26th.—Our intention was to hunt this day at West-Littleton, but in going along the Turnpike-road a hare jumped up, which, after a good run, was killed; then went to Littleton, where we soon moved two hares, who ran exceedingly well; one of them ran twice into Dirham park and out again; they were both killed and well saved. We had a good field and great sport; the hounds behaved this day exceedingly well, and a pleasanter day I never wish to see.

Oct. 29th.—This day threw off at Sopworth, where we had running and hares in great plenty; three of them were very stout ones who ran several very good rings. Though not one hare was killed, it was on the whole, a good day's sport.

Nov. 3d.—Went again to Sopworth, where we had most excellent sport with four good running hares; three of them were killed in good stile; the last ran until she dropt down before the hounds on

the high road. The first and last were well saved; the others were not, because the hounds ran at such a rate that all the horsemen were thrown out.

Nov. 5th.—Threw off in Nettleton-Marsh; there and near it several hares were well but slowly hunted, owing to a hard frost; therefore all of them proved cowards except the last, which, as the scent somewhat mended in the afternoon, stood before the hounds a great while, and shewed good sport, was killed and well saved.

Nov. 7th.—Threw off on Kington-Down, where three hares were started; the first was killed, and middlingly saved, without much running; the other two were very stout hares, who ran well on good ground, and shewed excellent sport; one of them was killed and well saved; the other, after being run down, we whipped off.

Nov. 10th.—This day two hares were started, one beyond Kington-Down, the other on Mr. Arnold's farm; after running some time, they were both lost. A very middling day's sport.

Nov. 12th.—This day threw off at Old-Lands, where two hares were started, who shewed good sport; they were both killed and well saved. A very good day's sport.

Nov. 14th.—Hunted this day at West-Littleton, where four hares were started; the first stood before the hounds a great while, was killed and saved; the second was killed without much running, and well saved; the third did not shew much

sport, was killed in cover and not saved; the fourth shewed most excellent sport, and this was also killed in cover and not saved. On the whole a very good day's sport; this last ran through Mr. Blathwayte's park.

Nov. 17*th.*—At Acton-Turvil this day we had a very great day's sport; several hares were well hunted, but not a very good scenting day; they were after some good and slow running all lost, except the two last, which were killed; one saved, the other not.

Nov. 19*th.*—This day one hare was found on Kington-Down; owing to a white frost going off the scent was very bad; the hare after going a few rings was lost; after that another was moved near West Littleton, which shewed good sport, was killed and well saved.

Nov. 21*st.*—This day a very stout hare was found on Old Sodbury Common, which, after running full two hours and shewing most excellent sport, was killed and well saved; after that another was found near Little Sodbury Camp, which, after running one ring, was killed and well saved; and while part of the hounds were killing this hare, another jumpt up and ran to Dodington-Park, hounds and all; so the day's sport ended.

Nov. 25*th.*—Had this day good sport at Sopworth and a good field; as the scent was fine we had continual running with four hares; but many of them ran to the liberty: three of them were

however, killed and well saved; the other not saved.

Nov. 26th.—A deep snow, did not hunt until

Dec. 4th.—Then went to Acton-Turvil, where three hares were hunted. Considering the cold state of the land and air, had a good deal of sport; one hare was killed and well saved.

Dec. 8th.—Hunted this day at Saddlewood, where several hares were hunted; the first shewed good sport, in running several rings, was killed and well saved; afterwards, owing to the scent going off with the frost, no other hare was killed, but we had plenty of good running, and hunting.

Dec. 9th.—This day hunted again at Saddlewood, where two stout hares were found sitting, which ran on very good ground and shewed very fine sport; they were both killed; one saved, the other not. The honnds ran and hunted very well.

Dec. 12th.—As the land was very much frozen, and the air very cold, we did not go out on Kingston-Down until 12 o'clock, where two hares were started; had a good deal of slow hunting, much better than we could expect, but no death.

Dec. 18th.—As the frost still continued very hard, and the air cold, went out in order to air the hounds into Harkcom-Bottom, where a rabbit was earthed and a martin treed; the latter was soon ferched down and killed.

Dec. 21st.—In order to air the hounds tried Kingston-Down, Shirril, and Harkcom-Bottom, without having any trail; therefore [illegible]

Dec. 22*d.*—This day threw off at Acton-Turvil Marsh, where one hare was started, which shewed good sport; but which, through mistake, we whipped off, and changed for another; two others were well hunted, one only killed and well saved. A fine day's sport, the scent was good.

Dec. 24*th.*—Had this day very fine sport with two very stout hares, which were started on Nettleton-Manor; the hares and hounds ran exceedingly well; they were both caught and saved alive. A pretty good day's sport.

Dec. 26*th.*—This day went beyond Marshfield, where we found plenty of hares, not less than four; but as it was a most excellent good scenting day, they did not stand long before the hounds; the first was rather foully killed by a spaniel and terrier that were in the field, and not saved; the second after running about a mile was killed and well saved; the third was moved rather before the second was killed, which after running over a great length of very uneven land went to earth, and was left therein; the fourth was found sitting, shewed good sport, was well hunted, killed, and well saved. Had much much better sport than we could expect.

Dec. 29*th.*—Threw off on Mr. Thos. Comley's farm, where a hare was found, which shewed exceeding good sport, was killed and well saved; as we were to hunt to-morrow, we gave it up for the day.

Dec. 30*th.*—Threw off this day near to Little-ton-Drew, where a hare was found sitting, which stood before the hounds full three hours of good hunting, but not hard riding; she was killed and well saved.

Jan. 14*th.*—Took out the hounds in order to air them, when a hare was moved in my middle timing, but as it was a very deep snow, not less than a foot deep, and exceedingly cold frosty air, there was no scent; so the hounds could hunt no farther than she was in sight.

Jan. 19*th.*—Threw off on Kington-Down, where one hare was started, but owing to the going off of the snow and frost, and rain impending, the scent was very bad, therefore no sport.

Jan. 22*d.*—Threw off at Littleworth this day, where one hare was started, which, after a short run, was killed and well saved. Several more were moved, one of them ran to Alderton-Grove, from which we drew off; all the rest ran to the Duke's park and to Withey-moor-wood, and with great difficulty the hounds were got out. It was a most excellently good scenting day, which made it so much the worse, as it was impossible to head the hounds; therefore it was hard work for the hounds and the horses, without any good sport.

Jan. 25*th.*—This day went out with the fox-hounds, and threw off in Alling-Grove-Wood, where more foxes were unkennelled than were hunted; the first was soon killed in the same

cover; the second, after breaking cover and taking a ring in the park, entered a drain; by putting a terrier into the same he was driven out at the other end, where the company, and the hounds, had a fine view down to the front of the great house, and then entered the pleasure-ground; and from thence he ran to Alling-Grove-Wood again; but soon broke cover, and after some middling hunting was lost. Then drew Sandgrove, the Plantations, Hazel-Wood, Chalkly, and Chantler's-Cliff, without finding; after which we tried a wood in the parish of Horton, called Stoney-Bridge, where a very stout fox was unkennelled that ran down to the lower woods across Hawkesbury-Common up to a small cover close to Hawkesbury village; from thence he was viewed to Chantler's-Cliff; he did not stop there long, but ran over the high ground to Kilcot-Wood, where the hounds hunted him exceedingly well for some time, before he broke cover; he then ran again to Chantler's-Cliff wherein he staid a great length of time, considering the smallness of the cover, and shewed good sport, but was at last compelled to leave it, and fly to a farmyard for shelter; but could find there none; not being able to proceed farther, he was forced to draw his last breath, after two hours and a half of good hunting.

Jan. 26th.—Threw off at Old Lands, where we found plenty of hares, and several of them were badly hunted; one was killed and well saved; the

scent was very bad; but another hare was found sitting near the Elm and Ash, which the hounds ran and hunted exceedingly well, and shewed very good sport. This likewise was killed and well saved.

Jan. 28th.—This day threw off near to Acton-Turvil, where two very stout hares were sitting, which shewed exceedingly fine sport; particularly the last, which ran many very good rings, one of them went into the park and out again; they were both killed and well saved by Lord Arthur; two better running hares in one day have been very seldom seen; as the scent was good the hounds ran and hunted exceedingly well. While running the last hare a fox was tallihoed from off an oak tree; although the hounds were very near to him, they did not quit the hare. Had this day a good field—not less than twelve.

Jan. 30th.—Went out this day again with the fox-hounds; after trying for a short time in the park, drew off to Alderton-Grove, where a fox was soon found, which ran off in a very good stile into the Duke's park; when, after running there for some time, he entered the pleasure-ground over some building and was soon killed. While running this, more foxes were hallooed, that rather hurt the sport, one of them was immediately pursued, which, after running to Withey-moore-wood and back to the park, went to earth. It was good hunting, but not hard riding. Then tried Sand-Grove and Kilcot-Woods, where either a fox or a

martin was on foot; as the run was but short and only in cover. It was rather supposed to be the latter.

Feb. 2d.—This day a bag hare was brought out and turned going in Nettleton-Field, and, it was supposed, that after running one good ring was killed by a greyhound; two other hares were started, one of them after a good run was killed and well saved; the other after running for some time went to the liberty.

Feb. 5th.—Threw off beyond Badminton (I think on Luckington-Manor), where a bag martin was turned out, but not having much law was soon killed after mounting two or three trees. After that a bag hare was turned going, which run about a mile of good hunting, was killed and saved. three more hares in the course of the day were started; from the first, after a most excellent long run, the hounds were taken off; the second shewed equally the same good sport, was killed and well saved; the third jumpt up as we were going home at the first check the hounds were taken off. The hounds ran and hunted all this day most admirably the company all said they never enjoyed a better day's sport, nor ever saw hounds behave so well before. A very good field for George; therefore all seemed exceedingly well pleased.

Feb. 9th.—This day threw off at Littleton-Drew where three hares were well hunted; killed and saved; the first was a bag hare that did not stay

long; but the other two ran well, and shewed very fine sport for a great length of time, nearly equal to the last day's sport. The company was highly pleased.

Feb. 15*th.*—Being a hard frost we did not go out until two o'clock, when we tried on Mr. Frankcom's farm, and started one hare, that ran well, but not far; was killed and well saved.

Feb. 17*th.*—This day threw off in Nettleton-Field, where one hare was found; but owing to a bad scenting day was lost after running one good ring; another was found sitting in the same field, that went off in a very fine stile; the hounds ran and hunted exceedingly well for two hours; the first part of this hunt was very hard running; the latter rather cold and slow hunting; therefore, like the first, was lost. As it rained nearly all the day, and we were to hunt to-morrow, we gave it up sooner than we should otherwise have done.

Feb. 18*th.*—This day a hare was found sitting in the lane leading to Nettleton Great-Marsh, which, after making two very good rings, laid fast in a hedge just beyond Burton; where she was a second time put up, and went off nearly in a strait line through Littleton-Drew Field, and away to Grittleton, and leaned towards Seventon; from thence to Mr. Jaques's house at Broom-Field, then on nearly to a wood, called Hay-wood, in the parish of Kington St. Michael, where she made a turn, and ran back nearly on her foiled ground, close to Grittle-

ton; where she laid fast the third time; the hounds again put her up in view, and killed her in a very thick strong brake, but not saved. It was one of the longest and the most excellent runs with one hare that ever I knew. She stood before the hounds not less than four hours of very good hunting, and a great part of it was very hard running. George was the only person in at the death.

Feb. 22d.—Threw off this day near to Acton-Turvil, where a hare was on foot before the hounds; they hunted her off tolerably well, but not being a good scenting day was lost, after slow hunting for some time. After that two more hares were found and hunted on Alderton-Manor; the first, after running several rings, was killed in Alderton-Grove, and saved; the other ran well for two hours, and shewed excellent sport; but we did not kill her, although, by her way of running, she seemed to be quite knocked up.

Feb. 25th.—The morning of this day was very wet and windy; did not go out until past the middle of the day; tried on Mr. Frankcom's farm, where one hare was found, which, after running several rings, was killed; another was found sitting on Leygrove-Ferny-Down, that ran on good ground and shewed very fine sport; this also was killed, and both were well saved. A very good afternoon's sport. But it was on this day that T. Webb, the Duke's keeper, got himself affronted, and behaved to me in a very rude, surly, and indecent

manner, and even shot at the hare before the hounds.

Feb. 27th.—This day threw off in Nettleton-Field, but tried over a great breadth of land without finding; until we threw into a brake below Mr. Wm. Gray's mill, where two hares were found, who ran many but not long rings; they were both killed and well saved. A pretty good day's sport.

March 1st.—Went this day beyond Marshfield, where two hares were found in a small coppice, near Nayly; the first ran two rings to some other cover, about a mile distant, and was (owing to a bad scenting day) lost; the other was killed in the same cover, without any running and well saved. A bad day's sport.

March 4th.—This day threw off in Old Sodbury-Common, which after trying for some time one hare was found on Horton-Manor, which after a very sharp and severe run, over deep and heavy land, for six or seven miles, in a zig-zag line, was killed near Mr. Holborow's house, at Old Sodbury, and well saved; more hares were found on the same manor; one of them shewed good sport, for some hours, with about two thirds of the pack; was lost in a piece of ploughed land near the Cross Hands; the other part of the hounds running several hares from one cover to another, from which we whipped them off.

March 6th.—Threw off on Marshfield-Down, but could not find there; had a good trail from the

down into Marshfield-Wood, where we soon had a hare up, which ran in the same for some time, but as she did not care to quit the same, we drew off, and tried Robin's-Wood, where a hare soon broke cover and ran to Marshfield-Down, and took one good ring round the down, and came back to the same cover, where we shipped off, wished her a good night, and turned home after a middling day's sport. No death.

March 9th.—Tried on Kington-Down, where several hares were hunted, but the land and the air being in a frozen state, and causing the scent to be very bad, they did not shew much sport; after hunting them for some time, went to Kington-Wick, where we found a very stout running hare indeed, which afforded a good hunt of two hours. Owing to the lateness of the afternoon we were compelled to give her up. Again no death.

March 11th.—This day went to Sopworth, where we found plenty of hares that shewed good sport indeed; all the day we had constant running, but often changed; three of them well killed and well saved.

March 14th.—This day started one hare near to Kington-Wood, which ran several times all through the same for a great length of time; but drew off without killing her; as the land was very dry, and the air cold, the scent was very bad. No great sport.

March 16th.—Went this day to Slaughterford, but did not find there; on Biddeston-Manor several

hares were hunted, but mostly in cover; the land being very dry, and the air cold, could not hunt out, but in cover had good running: one hare after being hard pressed for sometime, went to earth, was dug out and well saved. The sport not very great.

March 19th.—This day hunted at Saddlewood, where several hares were hunted, that shewed good sport; the hounds ran and hunted exceedingly well, all the day; one hare was killed in cover, but not saved.

March 23d.—Threw off beyond Littleton-Drew, where three hares were hunted; the two first, after shewing good sport were killed; one of them was saved the other not. The third afforded excellent sport for some time, from which we whipped off. A good day's sport for the last.

Number of Hares killed in each Month; and Days the Hounds were out.

Hares killed.	*No. of Days.*	*Hares killed.*	*No. of Days.*
Sept. 21	12	*Feb.* 13	9
Oct. 19	11	*March* 9	9
Nov. 20	10	—	—
Dec. 12	11	Total 99	Total 69
Jan. 5	7		
Hares saved	83	*Hares eat*	16

Number of Days that no hare was killed, 9.

Field money given by J. Beard,	£2	11	6
Ditto by others	8	7	0
Total -	£10	18	6

Hares disposed of to the following Persons, in 1801 *and* 1802 :—

Myself,
The Hounds,
Myself,
The Hounds,
Mr. Thomas Comley, of Kington,
Ditto,
Rev. Mr. Poyntz,
Mrs. Comley, Nettleton,
Farmer Palmore, ditto,
Mr. Mitchel, Chipping-Sodbury,
Mr. Arthur Tanner, do.
Mr. William Tily, ditto,
Geo. Hawkings, huntsman,
Rev. Mr. Denison, Nettleton,
Mr. Huggins, ditto,
The Hounds,
Farmer Browning, Slaughterford,
Mrs. Hathway, Pucklechurch,
Mrs. Osborne, Tormarton,
Mr. Hiatt, Chipping-Sodbury,
The Hounds,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
Mr. William Osborn, Badminton,
The Hounds,
Rev. Mr. Denison, Nettleton,
Mr. Wallis, Chipping-Sodbury,
Wm Felton, ditto,
Samuel Tily, ditto,
Rev. Mr. Swayne, Pucklechurch,
Mr. Meyler, Bath,
Farmer Bennett, Kington,
Mr. Frankcom, Tormarton,

Mr. Webb, Didmarton,
The Hounds,
John Nicholas, Hinton,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
Mr. Harry Pocock, Bath,
Lord Wm. Somerset,
Farmer John Snell, West-Littleton,
Farmer John Baldwin, ditto,
Rev. Dr. Hardwick, Sopworth,
The Hounds,
Farmer John Nicholas, Hinton,
Lord William Somerset,
Mr. Samuel Dowling, Chippenham,
Myself,
Farmer Chapel, Littleton-Drew,
Farmer John Watts, Codrington,
Geo. Hawkings, huntsman,
The Hounds,
The Hounds,
Myself,
The Duke of Beaufort,
The Hounds,
Mr. Bryan, Badminton,
—— Short, Chipping-Sodbury,
C. Codrington, Esq.
Lord ——,
The Hounds,
Farmer Jos. Bennett, Tormarton,
Rev. Mr. Poyntz,
Farmer John Pincot, Saddlewood,
Ditto,
The Hounds,
Wm. Osborn, Badminton,
The Duchess of Beaufort,
Mr. Ansty, Bath,
Mr. Golding, Marshfield,
Farmer Arnold, Tormarton,
The Hounds,
Samuel Dowling, Kington St. M.
Duchess of Beaufort,
Farmer Marsh, Nettleton,

The Duchess of Beaufort,
Thomas Comly, West-Kington,
The Duchess of Beaufort,
Mr. Hazard, Bath,
Mr. George Phillips, London,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
Farmer Eyles, West-Littleton,
The Duchess of Beaufort,
Farmer Coats, Littleton-Drew,
C. Codrington, Esq.
Mr. Warman, Tetbury,
The Hounds,
Farmer Cambridge, Acton-Turvil,
Mr. Bryan, Badminton,
George Phillips, London,
Rev. Mr. Denison, Nettleton,
Mrs. Brown, Acton-Turvil,
Mrs. Wait, Marshfield,
John Anstey, Hinton,
James Cross, the keeper,
Rev. Mr. Deer, Didmarton,
Thomas Comly, Kington,
Rev. Mr. Still, Wraxhall,
The Hounds,
Thomas Alding, Chipping-Sodbury,
The Hounds.

Three martin cats and a rabbit were killed.

OBSERVATIONS.

THE season on the whole has been tolerably well for the sports of the field; part of January was a hard frost, and at one time a very deep snow, that did not suit hunting for some time. The month of march was very fine weather for the land and seed time, but not for hunting; the wind was always north, with frosty mornings, and sun-shining days. The scent was bad all the time. Had bad luck with the hounds early in the hunting season, having lost two couple in the distemper. No accident happened to me, or any of my company, by taking of leaps or otherwise. My steeds and hounds, at the latter part of the season, were according to the old saying,

"Our horses stout, the hounds very healthy,
"Poaching ill stopped, hares middling plenty."

The most disagreeable business that occurred during the season was, that of the ill, brutish behaviour of T. Webb, the keeper, for his cross looks, surly talk, and shooting at the hares before the hounds. Towards the latter part of the season, I had a great addition to my pack, by four couple and half of young fresh hounds from the Marquis of Worcester, and another couple from Edward Toghill. I may now say as

Shakespeare said in his Midsummer Night's Dream.

"My Hounds are bred out of the Spartan kind;
So flew'd, so sanded, and their heads are hung
With ears that sweep away the morning dew;
Crook-knee'd and dew-lap'd, like Thessalian Bulls;
Slow in pursuit, but match'd in mouth like Bells,
Each under each, a cry more tuneable,
Was never hallooed to, nor cheer'd with Horn."

HUNTING

IN

1802 *and* 1803.

HUNTING this year commenced on *Tuesday, September* 21*st*, 1802.—This day I went out for the first time with my hounds to Codrington; after trying for some time two hares were hunted; but as the land was very dry, and the sun shone exceedingly hot, we had but little sport and no death.

At the request of some friends the hounds were taken out by George, to Sodbury-Common, about a week back, where three hares were moved that shewed but little sport; two of them were killed and well saved.

Sept. 25th.—This day threw off beyond Marshfield, where two or three hares were hunted; two of them were killed and well saved. The last was

well hunted, considering the land being very dry, and the air exceedingly warm. A very good day's sport.

Sept. 29*th.*—Threw off in Hare-Bottom, and tried over a great breadth of land without finding; and being unwilling to have a blank day, tried on Kington-Down, where three hares were soon up; the two first killed in a short time, and badly saved; the other we whipped off. A middling day's sport.

Oct. 2*d.*—This day started five hares; one near to Kington-Wood, which ran directly there, and was whipped off; the second near Nettleton village, which was killed, but not saved; the other three were moved on Comb-Manor; the first was killed and well saved; the second ran to Comb-Castle, where the hounds were stopt; the last was a very stout one that ran a great while, and shewed good sport, considering the dry state of the land.

Oct. 7*th.*—This day threw off on Marshfield-Down, where two hares were hunted. The first, after running several rings in and out of the thorns, was killed and well saved; the other was hunted in the thorns a good while, and at last was whipped off.

Oct. 12*th.*—Threw off near Acton-Turvil, where six hares were hunted. The three first were killed and well saved, after sharp but not long runs; the next two, after good runs, were lost; the last stood up full three hours, of some good and some slow

hunting. As we were returning home through the warren, the hounds set off up the road in full cry, about half a mile, where they caught another hare, which was well saved. The land was in a good state having had some rain.

Oct. 15*th.*—This day three hares were started; one in the Warren, that, after running one good ring, was killed and well saved; the two others were moved in one of Farmer Arnold's fields; the first, after a very sharp run, went to Dodington liberty; the other was killed, after an excellent sharp chase, and well saved. It was one of the best scenting days I ever knew, therefore a very good day's sport.

Oct. 16*th.*—This day went out with the fox-hounds; threw off at Sand-Grove-Wood, where a fox was soon found, that ran directly to Hazel-Wood; from thence to Chalkly and Kilcot Woods. After running there for some time he broke cover, and was soon killed in a very good stile. It was an excellent chase.

Oct. 18*th.*—Threw off this day near Acton-Turvil, where several hares were hunted; three were killed; two of them were well saved, the other not. A very good day's sport. The company out were; his Grace, the Marquis of Worcester, Lord Charles and Lord Arthur Somerset.

Oct. 21*st.*—Went this day to Sodbury-Common, where, and near thereto, many hares were moved that shewed good sport, although, at times, the

scent was but middling; two hares were killed and well saved.

Oct. 26*th.*—This day hunted at Sopworth, where we found hares in great plenty, and had continual running. It was not a very good scenting day. Two hares were killed and well saved. A very good day's sport.

Oct. 28*th.*—Had a most excellent day's sport, at Littleton-Drew, with three good running hares. As the scent was good they were all killed and well saved.

Oct. 30*th.*—Threw off on Marshfield-Down; after trying a good while before we found, and as the hares did not like to leave the thorns, it was mostly cover hunting for upwards of two hours before one was killed, and which was well saved. Another was caught but not killed.

Nov. 8*th.*—Threw off at Littleton-Drew, where several hares were hunted. As the scent was remarkably good, the hounds ran and hunted uncommonly well; but, owing to fresh hares jumping up and changing, there was but one hare killed, and that not saved.

Nov. 11*th.*—Went this day to Saddlewood with the hounds, where many hares were hunted; but, as the scent was but middling, had not much hard running; two hares were killed, one saved, the other not.

Nov. 12*th.*—Hunted this day again at Saddlewood, where two hares were started; the first,

after running one ring, went to Park-Wood, where with some difficulty the hounds were got out. The last happened to be a very stout one, that stood before the hounds a great length of time, and it was the opinion of the company that she ran not less than twenty miles, over good ground, therefore she shewed most excellent sport as any hare my hounds ever hunted. The company, not less than twenty, seemed to be very much pleased. She was killed and well saved.

Nov. 15*th.*—Threw off near Burton, where two hares were moved; who, after hunting them for four hours, were both lost; as the scent was very bad, there was a great deal of slow hunting, without much good running. A rabbit only was killed and that saved.

Nov. 19*th.*—This day hunted at West-Littleton, where four hares were started; the first was moved in Littleton-Wood, was soon killed but not saved; the next went to Dirham-Park; the two last were killed and well saved, after shewing most excellent sport; but owing to the last hare being headed back in Codrington-Lane, the hounds ran into Dodington-Wood, and it was with great difficulty they were got out, not until two of them were shot at, but not materially hurt.

Nov. 24*th.*—Threw off beyond Wick, where three hares were killed and well saved; the first and last showed good sport, particularly the last. The scent was so good, and the hounds ran at such

a rate, that every horseman was thrown out, excepting George.

Nov. 27th.—Had as good a day's sport on Kington-Down this day, as ever I wish to have, with three or four hares. The scent in the forepart of the day was but middling, we, however, had some good hunting and running. Only one hare was killed, but that in a very good stile, and well saved.

Nov. 29th.—Hunted this day at Sodbury-Common, where three hares were moved; the first was soon lost; the second was started in Horton-Common, that ran in a zig-zag line near to the Cross-Hands, where she was killed in a very good stile and well saved. The other was whipped off.

Dec. 4th.—Threw off near to Burton, where several hares were started, that shewed very good sport. As we often changed there was but one killed, and saved.

Dec. 7th.—Hunted mostly this day on the manor of Sherston, where three very stout hares were hunted, that shewed good sport. The first ran to the Duke's park; the second was lost; the last was killed and well saved, after a very good run.

Dec. 9th.—Threw off near Burton, where two hares were found sitting; the first, after running a very extensive ring, was lost near to the place where she was found; the other took across the Turnpike-road beyond Burton, and away to Nettleton Great-Marsh; from thence to Alderton-Grove, then she turned to the right and ran through Lit-

tleton-Drew-Street, and all down their great field, where she turned to the left and went to the Gosses; from thence nearly to the Elm and Ash, and away to Alderton Village, and back to Hibdon-Brake, where her strength failed, and she was compelled to yield up her breath to her staunch pursuers, and was well saved. Two better runs in one day I never wish to see.

Dec. 13*th.*—Found a hare in the Warren, which, after a very good run, was killed and well saved; another was found sitting on Nettleton Manor, that was killed near Castle Comb, but not saved. A very good day's sport.

Dec. 15*th.*—Threw off this day at West-Littleton, where the hounds moved a hare, but after some middling hunting was lost; then came to Kington-Down, where another was started by the hounds, that ran mostly in the thorns for two hours, which we whipped off from. It was not only a bad scenting day, but a very wet one, which made the sport so much the worse.

Dec. 18*th.*—Being a hard frost this morning we did not throw off in the Warren until 12 o'clock, where a hare was found, that shewed very good sport, was killed and well saved; another was found there, that ran well, until another jumped up in its place late in the day, when we gave it up. They both ran to Kington Down. A better day's sport no person could wish to see.

Dec. 20*th.*—Threw off this day in the Great Nettleton-Marsh, where the hounds put up two hares immediately; one of them was killed without much running; the other stood up nearly three hours and shewed very good sport, was killed; as was likewise a rabbit. They were all three well saved.

Dec. 23*d.*—Went this day to Saddlewood, where we had a fine day, and most excellent sport, and a good field of not less than twenty. There were two very stout hares hunted, that ran over good ground for upwards of three hours. As the scent was very good the hounds were never at a fault all the time; it was hard riding. They were both killed and well saved. A good day for George.

Dec. 24*th.*—Threw off at Old Lands, where and near thereto the hounds put up three hares; the first, after a good run, was killed and well saved; the second ran to the Gosses, where we changed; the fresh one ran to Old-Land, from which we whipped off.

Dec. 27*th.*—Threw off in the Warren, where we found hares very scarce; after trying some time one was found, and the hounds put up another; they were stout hares and ran over good ground. They were both killed and well saved without a huntsman.

Dec. 29*th.*—Went and tried near to Nettleton, where one hare was found; that, and others, ran for

several hours of tolerable hunting, but not much hard riding. It was supposed we changed more than once. As there was rain depending the scent went off very fast, therefore no hare was killed.

Jan. 1st. 1803.—As the morning was inclinable to be wet, we did not throw off much before 12 o'clock, when near to Nettleton Church, a hare was found, that ran exceedingly well for two hours and twenty minutes. A better run with one hare was seldom seen; as the scent was good the hounds all the time were hardly ever at a check; she was killed and well saved.

I never knew hares run so strong in general as they have this autumn.

Jan. 3d.—Went this day out with the fox-hounds and threw off in Allingrove-Wood, where a fox was soon found, who, after running in the same a short time, took across the Park in a zig-zag line to Little Badmington; from thence to Sand-Grove, where, after running for a great length of time, was killed in the same cover. Then drew Hazel-Wood, where another fox was found, that ran to Chalkly, and then turned to the left towards Little Sodbury, and was lost.

Jan. 5th.—Met the Marquis of Worcester, Dr. Penney, and others, at Acton-Turvil, where we found a hare, which, after a smart run, entered a drain, but was got out. After that another was found, which, after an exceedingly good run for two

hours and a half, was killed and well saved. An excellent day's sport.

Jan. 7th.—This day a hare was found near to Burton Houses, that was killed in Acton-Turvil. Street, after a smart run. Another was started in Nettleton Little-Marsh, which, after running a few rings leaning towards the liberty, was relieved by a fresh one being started; the hounds ran into Weathermoor-Wood, which made a confusion for an hour before they were got out and collected together. After that another was moved near to the Little-Marsh, that stood up and shewed good sport for two hours; this likewise was killed and were both well saved.

Feb. 2d.—As it has been a very hard frost ever since the 10th day of last month I have not gone out with the hounds in order to hunt until this day, but as the frost was not off I went without the huntsman. One hare was moved near to Burton killed and well saved; I found another, which after making one ring, ran to Coomb-Castle; after running there some time one was hunted out, that ran in a straight line towards Kington St. Michael, but I, and others, were thrown out, and whether the hare was killed or lost, we could not say.

Feb. 9th.—The frost not gone out of the land went to Codrington, where several hares were moved; but, as the scent was very bad, we had no sport.

Feb. 15*th.*—This day went to West-Littleton, where two hares were hunted; the first, after running several rings, was killed and well saved; as the weather wss inclinable to be wet, the scent was bad, and the last was soon lost.

Feb. 17*th.*—Threw off at Littleworth, where two hares were hunted; after running the first for some time, a fresh one jumped up, which ran one good ring, and then went to the liberty. Although it rained hard all the time the scent was remarkably good, but we all were completely wet through.

Feb. 19*th.*—Threw off this day near to Nettleton, where two hares were well hunted; the first we lost by another being started; this was killed after a good run and well saved. They shewed good sport for four hours.

Feb. 22*d.*—This day went beyond Marshfield; after trying for some time a hare was started, but owing to bad scent, or some other causes, the hounds made a bad out in hunting her, therefore she was soon lost; then tried over a good deal of land, likewise Marshfield-Down, without finding; but as we had but so little sport during the day, a little after four o'clock we arrived on Kington-Down, where we soon found one of the stoutest hares that ever I hunted; she ran over an amazing length of ground more than I can relate, I can only say, she soon quitted the thorns and made one ring round my turnip field and back to Kington-Down; then ran the Turnpike-road to Nettleton-Field,

where she turned to the left and made to James Hatherell's barn, and then to Acton-Turvil, all through Littleworth into Nettleton Little-Marsh; then near to Alderton-Grove, from thence into the Duke's park, out of which the hounds soon brought her in view; she ran back to Acton-Turvil, where she ran several rings. At about half after six o'clock, we were compelled to whip off, owing to the lateness of the afternoon, and was in fear of fresh ones getting up, that might run to the liberty; the hounds had her in view and nearly caught her several times; the dogs did it all themselves, were never one minute at fault; they ran at such a rate that the horses and their riders were nearly done up. I think had day-light held half an hour longer she must have died; but had it not been near to the liberty we should not have given her up when we did.

Feb. 24th.—This day went to Sodbury-Common, but did not find there; on Horton-Brow one hare was started, that ran a few rings and was lost. As the day proved very wet and windy, we gave up the hunt and turned home completely soaked.

Feb. 26th.—Threw off late in the afternoon at Nettleton, but did not find until just going home, from which here we whipped off.

Feb. 28th.—Went this day to Codrington, where three hares were started; the hounds hunted the first for some time pretty well; but the two last, owing to bad scent, shewed but very little sport.

A very disagreeable day in respect of rain and wind.

March 2d.—Threw off on Kington-Down, where Mr. Creswick joined me with part of his pack. Several hares were started and hunted; as the scent was but middling, had a great deal of very good cold hunting, but not much hard riding; two of them were killed and well saved.

March 4th.—Threw off on Nettleton-Manor, where we found plenty of hares, that shewed very good sport; but owing to fresh ones getting up, none were killed.

March 11th.—This day three hares were moved; one in Hare-Bottom owing to bad scent was soon lost; the two others were moved in Shirril-Bottom, which the hounds hunted, ran for some time, and were whipped off from. A middling day's sport.

March 14th.—Threw off near to the Elm and Ash, where many hares were indifferently hunted; the scent being remarkably bad, no great sport considering the number of hares moved.

March 6th.—Started one hare on Farmer Comly's Down, which, after a great deal of cold hunting, was lost by another being moved on Kington-Down; after making one good ring she also was lost; then went and found the first hare, which stood up first and last not less than four hours, without being killed.

March 18th.—Went this day to Saddlewood, where several hares were hunted; the two last

shewed good sport; one only was killed and well saved. Had a good field and excellent sport.

March 21*st*.—Had a very good day's sport at Little Sodbury and near thereto with three stout hares; the first, after running one good ring, was lost; the other two were killed and well saved, after good runs.

March 23*d*.—Threw off near Burton, where three hares were started; the first two ran directly to Kington-Wood; but after running them for some time in cover we drew off; the third, after running for some time, was lost.

March 25*th*.—Went this day to Sopworth, where many hares were well hunted; the three in particular that were killed and well saved were very stout ones, and ran over good land. The scent was very good, therefore we had one of the best day's sport since the 10th day of January. One of the above hares was started on Sopworth; the other two were started on Sherston Manor. Two jacks and one gill.

March 30*th*.—This day went to Slaughterford, for the last time going out, where two hares were badly hunted. The season ended much the same as it began, that is, the land was very dry and the air warm, therefore no scent.

Number of Hares killed in each Month; and Days the Hounds were out.

Hares killed.	*No. of Days.*	*Hares killed.*	*No. of Days.*
Sept. 6	4	*Feb.* 3	9
Oct. 21	10	*March* 8	10
Nov. 16	8	—	—
Dec. 13	11	Total 72	Total 56
Jan. 5	4		

And two rabbits.

Hares saved	66	*Hares eat*	6

Number of Days that no hare was killed, 16.

Field money given by Dr. Penney,	£1	1	0
Ditto by Mr. Denison	1	1	0
Ditto by me	1	17	6
Ditto by others	5	14	0
Total	£9	13	6

More Field Money collected.

By myself	£0	2	0
By others	0	5	0
Total in all	£10	0	6

Hares disposed of to the following Persons, in 1802 *and* 1803 :—

Myself,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
Farmer Prichet, Marshfield,
Mr. Isaac, ditto,
George Hawkings,
Myself,
The Hounds,
Mrs. Hugings, Nettleton,
Mr. Wilson, Lord Chedworth's steward,
Christopher Codrington, esq.
His Grace,
Farmer Cotes, Littleton-Drew,
James Hatherel, Acton-Turvil,
Myself,
Charles Godwin, Old-Sodbury,
William Tily, Chipping-Sodbury,
Farmer Marsh, Nettleton,
The Hounds,
Marquis of Worcester,
John Tily, Stapleton,
Mrs Hathway, Pucklechurch,
William Osborne, Badminton,
His Grace,
Farmer Chapel, Littleton-Drew,
Mr. Denison, Nettleton,
Christopher Codrington, esq.
William Golding, Marshfield,
The Hounds,
Mr. Wilson, Ld. Chedworth's steward,
His Grace,
F. Chapman, Wick,
Mr. Deer, Didmarton,
The Hounds,
The Hounds,
Mrs. Osborne, Tormarton,
Captain Larton, Didmarton,
A rabbit, myself,

William Blathwait, esq. Dirham,
Mr. William Hillier, West-Littleton,
The Duchess of Beaufort,
Mr. Wilson,
Ditto,
Edward Toghill, Charmer-Down,
William Young, Little Sodbury,
Samuel Tily, Chipping-Sodbury,
Wm. Felton, ditto,
Michael Bayley, Bath-easton,
His Grace,
The Hounds,
His Grace,
Mr. Denison, Nettleton,
Mr. Harvey, Sodbury,
A rabbit, myself,
His Grace,
Mr. Deer,
Edward Toghill, Charmer-Down,
His Grace,
Thomas Tily, Chipping-Sodbury,
Christopher Codrington, esq.
His Grace,
Farmer Cambridge, Acton-Turvil,
Farmer Isaac, ditto,
John Balding, West-Littleton,
Mrs. Bethel, Nettleton,
Farmer John Snell, West-Littleton,
Rev. Mr. Swayne, Pucklechurch,
Mrs. Wait, Marshfield,
Mrs. Dowling, Chippenham,
Farmer Pincot, Saddlewood,
William Young, Little-Sodbury,
Thomas Alding, Chipping-Sodbury,
Farmer Comley, Sopworth,
William Cotes, Nettleton,
George Hawkings, huntsman

Thursday, April 6th.—By the request of Lord William Somerset, and others, the hounds were taken out this day and threw off near Old Lands, where and near thereto many hares were hunted. As the scent was good had most excellent sport, not a better day's sport since Christmas; two hares were killed, one well saved, the other the hounds had for their good behaviour.

April 9th.—Again the hounds were taken out near to Acton-Turvil, where several hares were well hunted that shewed good sport. The hounds generally whipped off, therefore no hare was killed.

Hares given to Lord William,		The Hounds.	
Hares saved	67	*Hares eat*	7

OBSERVATIONS

On the Season past, for Hunting, April 12, 1803.

AS it was a fine harvest, hunting commenced early; but at the first setting out the land was very dry and the air warm. It was bad hunting until the 12th day of October, when we had rain, and the land was in good state, and so it continued until the 10th day of January, and up to this time I never knew the hares so stout; and they never showed better sport in any autumn that ever I hunted; but from the above time unto the 17th day of February, we had no hunting worth observing, and from that day to the end of March it was very bad hunting. After the frost was gone the weather was very much inclinable to be dry, and the air very warm, so the season ended in much the same manner as it began: a fine March for the land, but not for hunting.

ON THE HOUNDS.

Some time in August I went early in the morning to Wraxhall, in order to hunt in a large cover there, in the way of airing the hounds; but when I came there it began to rain very hard, and I was under the necessity of putting the hounds into a large straw house; although they were mostly all in couples I thought they might

not hurt for a short time, but when I came to take them out, to my sorrow and great surprise, two of them I found dead, by three couple having got entangled; one of them was choked, the other seemed to be killed by the other hounds; a warning to me for the time to come; they were very good young hounds.

The hounds at the beginning of the season were in high condition, but they soon got poor, owing, as I suppose, to the warm weather, and not giving them proper physic; but towards Christmas they were tolerably stout.

The most disagreeable thing that happened this season was, the hounds getting into Dodington liberty, where the keeper shot two of them, but not as he said to hurt them, but how true that was I can not pretend to say; they were very bloody but not so much hurt as to make them lame. As for my part I did all that I could to get them out, and rewarded a man for assisting me. I must say at first I was very much hurt, and had resolved to take the matter up warmly; but, after a time, I thought it best to say little, I only asked who shot them? The keeper said it was him; I did not ask him who ordered him, thinking "the less said was soonest mended." —Not a hound was lost all the year in the distemper.

About the beginning of February, the Marquis of Worcester was so good as to offer to get me a

few couple, which I was very much obliged to him for. But I rather declined the offer, for this reason, as I had 15 couple of hunting hounds, and the season was far gone they were as many as my kennel would hold. Although I have several old hounds, as they do often hit off faults and always run completely up, I cannot think of parting with them. But if the Marquis will, or can supply me with two or three couple of likely hounds, which are about 17 or 18 inches high, in the course of this summer, Mr. Beard will accept of the same, with his best thanks.

HORSES.

My own mare has been very stout in respect of her health; she, however, went a little limping a few times. As for the huntsman's horse, during the season, he never was stouter, he only rested a few times owing to his being pricked in shoeing; his old coat never came off so well before as it did at this time; his wind seemed not to affect him all the season.

ACCIDENTS

Have been but of small consequence; three or four slight falls. Mr. D——— suffered most by his horse leaping a little too short.

THE HUNTSMAN

During this season he has behaved very well; there

has not been any grumbling or discontent, but was very thankful for the field money he received; he always attended when called on, except once, then it seems he was in more fear of the wind and weather than of me or others. But we did tolerably without him; had good sport, killed two hares and well saved them.

HARES.

At the beginning of the season we seemed not to find hares plenty in many places. I went only two days to Old Lands all the season; the first time it was long before we found one; but, towards the latter part of the season, when I went again we found them very plenty. About Littleworth I did not find them plenty all the winter; on Kington-Down we always found; on Marshfield Manor we found very few.

ON POACHERS AND POACHING.

Its my opinion if it was possible to prevent poaching hares would be four times as plenty as they have been in general. It appeared to me that a great number of hares are bred in the parish of Tormarton, but who catch them I know not. If one were to draw a line from my home to the Warren-house, and then to the new house at Nicholas Bennett's, take all land to the west of that line, I think there are some scores of hares bred every year; but if the poachers do not have

them I do not know who do. There has been no coursing in that space of land; I only killed two brace; in the two preceeding years I killed about 50 brace each year; this last year the number killed were only 37 brace—no great slaughter. Although we found hares not very plenty there were sufficient to hunt. In giving away hares I find great difficulty to please all; they make application for them on the manors I hunt; all the farmers expect one in a season, and many of my friends and relatives are always in expectation of one.

MYSELF.

When Mr. Hathway kept the hounds he made it a point of hunting on the hills twice a week, and once under the hills. I very seldom attended him under the hills. In the four last years that Mr. H. kept the hounds, his number of hunting days on the hills were nearly 50 in each year; and in my three years about 60 in each year; which, in seven years, made 380 days. I have great reason to thank Providence in giving me health and strength always to go out with them; for during the last seven years neither sickness, nor lameness ever kept me at home; and not a day in a year that other engagements prevented my attendance.

HUNTING

IN

1803 *and* 1804.

In the way of a Preface to this Year's Dairy, I shall relate what Venus said to Adonis on Hunting.

I PROPHESY thy death my living sorrow,
If thou encounter with the boar to-morrow,
But if thou needs will hunt, be rul'd by me;
Uncouple at the timorous flying hare;
Or at the fox which lives by subtility;
Or at the roe, which no encounter dare;
Pursue these fearful creatures o'er the downs,
And on thy well breath'd horse keep with the hounds,
And when thou hast on foot the purblind hare,
Mark the poor wretch, to overshut his troubles,
How he outruns the wind, and with what care
He cranks and crosses with a thousand doubles.
The many musits through the which he goes,

Are like a labyrinth, and amaze his foes;
Sometimes he runs among the flock of sheep,
To make the cunning hounds mistake their smell;
And sometimes, where earth-delving conies keep,
To stop the loud pursuers in their yell;
And sometimes sorteth with a herd of deer;
Danger deviseth shifts, wit waits on fear,
For there his smell with others being mingled,
The scent hot-snuffing hounds are driven to doubt,
Ceasing their clamorous cry till they have singled
With much ado, the cold fault cleanly out:
Then do they spend their mouth, echo replies
As if another chase were in the skies;
By this, poor Watt far off, upon a hill,
Stands on his hinder legs with listning ears,
To harken if his foes pursue him still:
Ah! now their loud alarms he doth hear;
And now his grief may be compared well
To one sore sick, that hears the passing bell;
Then shalt thou see the dew-bedabbled wretch
Turn and return, indenting with the way,
Each envious brier his weary legs doth scratch,
Each shadow makes him stop, each murmur stay,
For misery is trodden on by many,
And being low, never reliev'd by any.

Shakspeare's Poems.

HUNTING this year commenced on *Wednesday, September 7th*, 1803.—Went out with the hounds, but as the land was exceedingly dry,

and the air very warm, we had but little sport. Three hares were hunted, but were all soon lost.

Sept. 10*th.*—Threw off against Littleton-Drew, where we did not find hares very plenty. As the land was still in a dry state, and the sun shone out very bright all the day, it was impossible for the hounds to hunt, therefore we had no great sport.

Sept. 12*th.*—Threw off at Acton-Turvil, where four hares were well hunted; two of them were killed, one saved, the other not. A good day's sport considering the dry state of the land.

Sept. 17*th.*—Threw off at Acton-Turvil, where several hares were well hunted; two of them were killed and well saved. We then went to Kington-Down, where another was found, that shewed good sport, was killed and well saved. A good day's sport.

Sept. 20*th.*—This day went beyond Marshfield, where two hares were moved, but as rain and thunder were impending, there was no scent, and they were soon lost. After the rain had fell four hours, we tried on Marshfield down, where one hare was badly hunted. A middling day's sport.

Sept. 22*d.*—Threw off on Mr. Frankcom's farm, where three hares were started. They ran, and shewed good sport, particularly the last; two were killed and well saved. A good day's sport.

Sept. 28*th.*—Went this day to Sodbury-Common, where we did not find hares very plenty, and those we started were badly hunted. One was

killed and saved. The land, notwithstanding it had a fine rain the other week, was now in a very dry state; therefore bad hunting and riding.

Sept. 30*th.*—This day hunted at Codrington, where many hares were badly hunted except the last, which shewed good sport, but was lost owing to very fine rain that was much wanted. Two hares were killed; one was well saved, the other was not.

Oct. 3*d.*—Threw off on Kington-Down, where three hares were well hunted, killed, and saved. A good day's sport.

Oct. 5*th.*—This day went to Slaughterford, where three hares were hunted; and one that was killed and well saved shewed better sport than any hare that we hunted this season.

Oct. 7*th.*—Threw off at West Littleton, where one hare only was hunted; that after a very good run was killed and well saved. Of all the hares that I ever hunted I never saw one run so much in view of the hounds and hunters, nor did I ever see the hounds run and hunt better.

Oct. 10*th.*—Went this day to Marshfield, where four hares were started. They all shewed pretty good sport; one only was killed and well saved.

Oct. 12*th.*—Threw off at Little Sodbury, where two hares were well hunted. The first, after running well for some time, went to Bodking-Wood; the other was killed and well saved. A good day's sport, considering the dry state of the land.

Oct. 14*th.*—This day went to Slaughterford, where only one hare was started, near Ford, which went off in a zig-zag line to a cover near Corsham, called Beckel-Wood, before she made a turn; but was not able to run far. Was killed and well saved, and also a rabbit. A very good run.

Oct. 17*th.*—This day hunted mostly on Lord Chedworth's Manors, where six hares were hunted. Four of them were killed; three were well saved; the second and last shewed most excellent sport; the first and third stood up but a short time.

Oct. 21*st.*—Hunted this day on Tormarton and Lord Chedworth's Manors, where five hares were started; three were killed, well hunted, and well saved; the other two ran into Dodington-Wood. A good day's sport.

Oct. 26*th.*—Threw off beyond Burton on Lord Chedworth's Manor, where one hare was started, that ran one good ring away round Littleton-Drew, where another fresh one got up, that shewed good sport in making one good ring into the Duke's Park, and out again, without changing, and from thence to James Hatharel's Barn in the Warren, where she was killed and well saved; after that another was started in Burton Field, that ran directly to Withey-moor-Wood, where we whipped off.

Oct. 28*th.*—This day went to Codrington, where three hares were well hunted; two of them were killed and well saved. The scent was very good,

therefore the hounds ran and hunted all the day exceeding well. A good day's sport.

Nov. 1*st.*—Found on Littleton-Down a hare sitting, but being improperly turned out was soon killed; two others were middlingly hunted; the first was soon lost, the last ran for a great while, and was whipped off from.

Nov. 4*th.*—Threw off near to the Warren House, where three hares were started; the first, after running some time was lost on the Turnpike-road; the two others were killed and well saved, after good but not long runs. Considering the bad state of the air, being a very hard frost, and the land exceeding dry, had a few hours of good sport.

Nov. 7*th.*—Went this day to Slaughterford, where two hares were started; the first was moved in cover, killed and eat without any running; the other, after running for some time and shewing good sport, was killed and well saved. On the preceeding night had some rain which made the land in a good state for hunting; the scent in general had been very middling. This day it was breast high, the hounds could not run faster if they had the hare in view all the time.

Nov. 10*th.*—Threw off in Robin's Wood; and soon found, on Marshfield-Down, several hares, and one in my Parks. They all ran in cover, except the last. The scent was very bad; it was my wish to have killed one hare, but it was more than we could do. Had a great deal of cold hunting;

the hounds caught one, and she cried out, and they let her run away again.

Nov. 14th.—Went to Sodbury-Common, where and in the vicinity, several hares were started, and well hunted, but as we often changed, no hare was killed.

Nov. 18th.—Threw off near to Tormarton, where several hares were well hunted, particularly the last, that shewed as excellent sport as ever I wish to see. Was killed and well saved.

Nov. 24th.—Threw off in Sodbury-Common, where several hares were started and well hunted; but, owing to changing, there was but one killed and well saved. A very good day's sport as was ever enjoyed.

Nov. 26th.—This day threw off on Marshfield-Down, where one hare was started, which, after running a good while, was killed. After that another was started on Kington-Down, that shewed most excellent sport. It was supposed she ran until she dropped down dead before the hounds, because she was taken up before the hounds were up to her; they were both well saved, with only ten couple of hounds, and George on foot.

Nov. 28th.—Went to Codrington, where one hare was started, that ran directly to Dodington-Park, and before another was found, rain coming on so fast, the hunt was given up for that day.

Nov. 30th.—Went out this day only with five couple of young hounds; two hares were hunted;

the first but badly, the other for a little one ran well, and shewed good sport, was killed and well saved.

Dec. 5th.—This day went to Codrington, where only one hare was found late in the afternoon, which, after a very sharp, but not a long run, was killed and well saved.

Dec. 13th.—Did not go out for a week before (being a hard frost) until this day, when I went to the Elm and Ash, where I had plenty of hunting all the day long; but owing to changing, and but a middling scent, no hare was killed.

Dec. 17th.—Threw off in Nettleton Field, where one hare was started, that ran for two hours and was killed. Then went to Kington-Down, where a little hare and a big one was hunted, at separate times; after hunting them for some time, the small one was killed; they were both middlingly saved, the big one we whipped off from.

Dec. 19th.—This day went to West Littleton, where two stout hares were started, that shewed very good sport; the first was killed and well saved; the other, after running many good rings, ran (not by design) into Dodington Plantation, and by that means she was not killed.

Dec. 22d.—This day went towards the Elm and Ash, where we found plenty of hares, mostly on Alderton Manor, that shewed very good sport; but, owing to fresh hares getting up, there was but one hare killed and well saved. The scent was good all the day.

Dec. 26th.—Started two hares on Kington-Down, which, after running over a great length of ground, and shewing most excellent sport, one was killed and well saved, the other not. Another was killed, near Burton, and well saved. As the scent was very good all the day, the hounds ran and hunted all the day exceeding well.

Dec. 30th and 31st.—Hunted at Saddlewood, where we had plenty of very good running both days; but the hares mostly ran either to the Duke's, Mr. Huntly's, or Mr. Escourt's Plantations, where hares were in great plenty, it was some time before the hounds could be got out of the latter place. Only one hare was killed in cover and not saved.

Jan. 2d, 1804.—This day drew Robins's-Wood, where a fox was found, that went off at a great rate to Withey-moor-Wood. No horse was in until the hounds took to a hare, from which we whipped off; and then we returned to Marshfield-Down, where we soon found a hare, which, after shewing good sport, was killed and well saved. A good scenting day.

Jan. 4th.—Went this day to Codrington, where two very stout hares were well hunted; the first was killed and well saved; the other was lost. A most excellent day's sport as I would wish to see.

Jan. 11th—Threw off in Yate-Common, did not find there; but tried on for hours near to Cod-

rington, where two hares were found sitting, which, after smart runs, were both killed and well saved.

Jan. 18*th.*—Met this day his Grace the Duke of Beaufort, in Nettleton-Marsh, where we soon found, and ran many hares without killing one, therefore no slaughter. Had continual running. A very hard day for the horses and hounds. The scent was very good all the day.

Jan. 17*th.*—Threw off again in Nettleton Great-Marsh, where we found hares in great plenty, owing to the young fox-hounds continually hunting the Plantations and Withey-moor-Wood, that the hares in great measure were hunted out, therefore when started they all ran directly to the liberty, which was the case all the day long, and made it a very hard day for the horses and hounds, without any sport. As for my part I had rather not have seen a hare all the day.

Jan. 19*th.*—This day went to Marshfield-Down, where near thereto one hare was found, that was killed and well saved, after a very good run of several rings.

Jan. 24*th.*—Threw off in Nettleton Great-Marsh, where we found, and near thereto, plenty of hares. Although some of them, after running several rings, went home, by that means saved their lives; it was a most excellent day's sport. The scent was very good all the day; only one hare was killed and well saved.

Jan. 26th.—This day threw off in Hare-Bottom, where one hare was moved, that after one short run to Sherrel-Brake, and then to Kington-Down, where we changed for one that (after running several rings) was killed and saved. Had sufficient sport for one day.

Jan. 31st.—As this morning was a very wet one did not go out until near 12 o'clock, but we had soon two hares up; one on my farm, the other on Farmer Arnold's; they were both killed and well saved on Kington-Down, after very good runs. Better sport I never wish to see.

Feb. 2d.—Threw off beyond Burton, where one hare was started; and in Nettleton Great-Marsh, another was moved; they were very stout hares, and shewed most excellent sport; they were both killed and well saved; the scent was very good.

Feb. 3d.—By the request of two Gentlemen the hounds were taken out this day. A hare was found sitting not a furlong from the Kennel, that ran directly to Kington-Down, after running several rings in and out of the thorns was lost; and on the same down another was found, that shewed very good sport in taking many good rings, but owing to rain coming on the scent died away, therefore no hare was killed.

Feb. 6th.—Threw off near to the White Gates, where a hare was soon found, and several more during the day, that ran well and shewed very good sport, but no hare was killed.

Feb. 10*th.*—Went this day to West-Littleton, where four hares were hunted; the first and third ran directly to Dirham Park; the second, after running several rings, ran into Dodington Park; the fourth ran many very good rings, and was lost. Owing to rain impending, the scent died away, therefore no hare was killed. A good day's sport.

Feb. 13*th.*—This day two hares were started near to Kington-Down; the first shewed a considerable deal of cold hunting; the other was soon lost. Being a very hard frost, attended with a very cold north wind, and a bright sunshine, it was impossible for the hounds to hunt. No sport.

Feb. 17*th.*—Threw off beyond Burton, where we found hares in great plenty. Although it was so hard a frost, that George did not think well of riding, it was a most excellent scenting day, therefore, I think, we never saw so much good hunting in one day before. We had continual running between Badminton Park and the Three Stones on Nettleton Field; but, owing to changing, there was but one hare killed. After running for two hours and more, in making several rings, one of them that ran round the Three Stones in Nettleton Field was killed near the Warren House, but not saved.

Feb. 20*th.*—Threw off again beyond Burton, where three hares were started, that shewed most excellent sport, particularly the last that was started near the White Gates that ran to Littleton-Drew, and thence to the Gosses; from thence all

through Luckington-Street, and away to a Brake, called Luckly-Brake. It was more like a fox chace than a hare hunt. They were all three killed and well saved.

Feb. 22d.—Threw off in Nettleton Great-Marsh, where one hare was soon found, that was killed and well saved after running several good rings; and near the same Marsh another was found, that ran directly to the Duke's Park, and into Allingrove-Wood, where the hounds brought out the same hare (it was thought) which ran down the Park close to the front of the Duke's House, when she turned to the right towards Little Badminton, where we soon changed; but before the hounds could be taken away they got into Bodkin-Wood.

Feb. 24th.—Went this day to West-Littleton, where three hares were found; the first ran directly to Dirham Park, but with great difficulty got in without being catched; the second, owing to bad scent, was soon lost; the third was killed and well saved, after a great deal of cold hunting.

Feb. 27th.—This day went to Codrington, where by accident Mr. Creswick's hounds joined us, where we hunted four hares in the following manner. The first was found by Mr. Creswick's hounds on Dirham Manor. As she ran towards Mr. Higgs's, my hounds joined, and soon killed the hare, when his dogs were taken away; after that another was soon found, and lost; then a third was

found, and was killed in cover by the assistance of Mr. Creswick's hounds. After that Mr. Creswick joined us again, and put up the fourth hare. Three of them were killed and well saved, after most excellent sport as any person would wish to see.

Feb. 29th.—Threw off near to the Warren Barn, where we hunted several hares, that shewed some considerable sport; two of them were killed and well saved.

March 2d.—This day hunted at Sopworth, where many hares were hunted; only one was killed and well saved. A very good day's sport.

March 5th.—Went this day to Sodbury, where we had plenty of hunting with one or more hares; but as I was indifferent about killing, I whipped off when the hare was in view.

March 7th.—Threw off on Mr. Arnold's Farm, where we soon found. After hunting several hares, one was killed and well saved. A very good day's sport.

March 9th.—Went this day to Sopworth, where we had plenty of hares and good running. A very fine day's sport, but very disagreeable weather, for it rained all the day.—All except myself and another wore great coats. No hare was killed, owing in a great measure to so often changing.

March 12th.—Threw off in the Warren, where and near thereto, three hares were well started, killed and saved, after a most famous hunt as any person would ever wish to see and enjoy.

March 14*th*.—Threw off beyond Burton, where three hares were well hunted, killed and saved. Most famous sport; quite equal to the preceding day.

March 16*th*.—This day threw off at Old Lands, where three hares were well hunted. They shewed most excellent sport, particularly the last; they were all three killed and well saved. We had great luck this week in killing and saving all the nine hares; seven of them were jacks.

March 19*th*.—Went to West-Yatton this day, where one hare was found, which, after a pretty good hunt, was lost.

March 23*d*.—Threw off near to the Elm and Ash, where many hares were started; some of them well, and some badly hunted. It so happened, all the day, when one hare was up a second joined. The last ran from Old Lands to Church Yatton, were she was lost; one hare was killed and well saved.

March 28*th*.—Threw off near Viner's-Lane, where we found hares in great plenty; four of them were well hunted, and shewed good sport, as ever I wish to see. One only was killed and well saved, and that was a jack. The scent was very good.

April 11*th*.—Went this day to Cullern-Park, in order to air the hounds, where we soon started a hare; after running her in cover for some time, we unkennelled a fox, that ran in the same cover a considerable time before he broke away; after a chace

of about three miles of good hunting, and hard riding he went to earth. Then we bolted a rabbit, that ran several fields, and she went to earth; and in coming home a stout young hare met us in the road, that after running in view for half a mile, was killed. It was more like a course than a hunt.

Number of Hares killed in each Month; and Days the Hounds were out.

Hares killed.	*No. of Days.*	*Hares killed.*	*No. of Days.*
Sept. 11	8	*Feb.* 12	11
Oct. 18	9	*March* 13	10
Nov. 10	10	—	—
Dec. 9	8	Total 82	Total 68
Jan. 9	9	And one rabbit.	
Hares saved	75	*Hares eat*	7

Number of Days that no hare was killed, 16.

Field money given by Dr. Penny,	£1	1	0
Ditto by Mr. Denison	1	1	0
Ditto by me	4	13	6
Ditto by others	3	13	0
Total	£10	8	6

Hares disposed of to the following Persons, in 1803 *and* 1804 :—

The Hounds,
Lord John Somerset,
Mr. Hillier, West-Littleton,
John Hayward, Wilsford,
Myself,
Mr. Frankcom, Tormarton,
Mr. Codrington, Dodington,
Farmer Bennett, Newhouse,
William Young, Little-Sodbury,
The Hounds,
Mr. Higgs, Codrington,
George Hawkings,
Richard Wilson, esq. London,
Myself,
Mrs. Dowland, Chippenham,
John Snell, West-Littleton,
William Golding, Marshfield,
William Young, Little-Sodbury,
Mr. Harry Pocock, Bath,
A rabbit, myself,
Rev. Mr. Denison, Nettleton,
The Hounds,
Farmer Gaishford, Box,
George Young, ditto,
—— Matthews, Bitton,
Mrs. Vez, Bath,
Farmer Arnold, Tormarton,
Mr. Bryan, Badminton,
Mr. Higgs, Codrington,
Ditto,
Richard Bryant, Siston
Joseph Bennett, Tormarton,
William Osborne, Badminton,
The Hounds,
Farmer Jas. Browning, Slaughterford,
Mrs. Wait, Marshfield,
Dr. Penny,

Mrs. Hathway, Pucklechurch,
Rev. Mr. Swayne, do.
Mr. Osborne, Badminton,
Thomas Tily, Sodbury,
Rev. Mr. Denison, Nettleton,
Samuel Tily, Sodbury,
Farmer Eyles, West-Littleton,
Mr. Higgs, Luckington,
Richard Wilson, esq. London,
The Hounds,
Ditto,
Farmer Smyth, Marshfield-Down,
Mr. Higgs, Codrington,
Lord William Somerset,
Ditto,
John Nicholas, Hinton,
Samuel Dowland, Kingston St. Michael,
C. Codrington, esq. Dodington,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
William Beard, Church Yatton,
The Duke of Beaufort,
Mr. Bryan, Badminton,
The Hounds,
Dr. Penny,
George Phillips, London,
Ditto,
George Hawkings,
Farmer Baldwing, West-Kington,
Mr. Harry Pocock, Bath,
Mr. Higgs, Codrington,
William Osborne, Badminton,
Farmer Bennett, Newhouse,
Rev. Mr. Deer, Didmarton,
Samuel Tily, Sodbury,
Rev. Mr. Neve, Old-Sodbury,
Mrs. Hathway, Pucklechurch,
Mr. Warman, Tetbury,
Mr. Huggings, Nettleton,
William Coates, ditto

Farmer Cambridge,
Acton-Turvil,
John Hole, Nettleton,
Farmer Clark, ditto,
John Morly, Bath,
Thos. Alding, Sodbury
Rev. Mr. Denison,
Myself.

OBSERVATIONS

On the Season past, for Hunting, March 31, 1804.

AS it was a fine harvest, hunting commenced early; but, at the first going out, the land was very dry, and the air warm. It was bad hunting until October. Although we had several storms of rain, the land was in so dry a state that it was soon gone; but, during the winter through, had but little frost or snow that stopped us.

HARES

We found very plenty, particularly where we hunted most; but they seemed not to run so strong in March as they did in December, owing as it seems many of them were not sound in their livers.

HOUNDS.

It has been hinted to me that my beagles are not level, that is, they do not pack well together: some days they seem not to run so well as I could wish; but where the fields are small, and the fences near together, I think no hounds can pack well, its impossible for them to get through or over the bounds all in a body. Some young hounds I have, and some I intend to breed; and within these three months, I have hanged and parted with five couple of hounds, in order to

make them more level. In an open country hounds may be had to pack together, by rearing many young ones yearly, but that is attended with considerable expence. According to Tickell, I have parted with some of the kind he condemns.

SOME hounds, of manners vile (not less we find
Of fops in hounds than in the reas'ning kind)
Puff'd with conceit run gadding o'er the plain,
And from the scent divert the wiser train,
For the foes footsteps fondly snuff their own,
And mar the music with their senseless tone,
Start at the starting prey, or rustling wind,
And, hot at first, inglorious lag behind;
A fault'ring tribe, may such my foes disgrace:
Give me, ye Gods! to breed the nobler race;
Nor give thou to attend with truth unknown
I sing, and make Athenian arts our own.

After pointing out the bad faults in hounds, he gives us some of the good properties, that hounds ought to possess.

SUCH be the dog I charge thou meanst to train,
His back is crooked and his belly plain,
Of fillets stretch'd and huge of haunch behind,
A tap'ring tail that nimbly cuts the wind,
Truss thigh'd, staight hamm'd, and fox like form'd his paw,
Large legg'd, dry soled; and of protended claw;
His flat-wide nostrils snuff the sav'ry stream,

And from his eyes he shoots pernicious gleam;
Middling his head, and prone to earth his view,
With ears and chest that dash the morning dew;
He best to stem the flood, to leap the bounds,
And charm the Dryad's with his voice profound,
To pay large tribute to his weary lord,
And crown the Sylvan hero's plenteous board.

HORSES.

My mare has been all the season remarkably stout, never carried me better.

The huntsman's horse has carried George as well as usual all the winter, without being sick or lame.

As Shakspeare has drawn the picture of the Huntsman's horse in the following lines, I shall make use of his own words.

SO did this horse excel a common one
In shape, in courage, colour, pace, and bone,
Round hoof'd, short jointed, fetlocks shag and long,
Broad breast, full eyes, small head, and nostrils wide,
High chest, short ears, strait legs, and passing strong,
Thin mane, tail not thick, broad buttock, tender hide:
Look what a horse should have, he did not lack,
Save a proud rider on so proud a back.

Shakspeare's Poems.

As I have a little room remaining I shall say something relative to the antiquity and innocency of Hunting.

THE antiquity of this innocent and rational diversion, and manly exercise, may be traced back to the first institution of human society. These exercises and diversions, indeed, existed in the world long before those States were formed, who afterwards made so great a figure in history, although even under them, they were considered as honourable, and no way beneath the character of the greatest men and heroes. The vital and active principle, which leads us to the practice of innocent diversions, is one of the noblest that can actuate the heart of man, namely, emulation; while the consequences resulting from them are more important than some will believe, or others acknowledge; for while they furnish a relaxation from the toils of business, and an alleviation of the cares of life, they add vigour to the mind, health to the body, and, in conformity with the delightful variations of the seasons, mix our pains and pleasures together for the most salutary end.

In the infant state of society, the exercise of hunting was found necessary to support individuals and their families.

What was practised from motives of necessity in the early ages of the world, was encouraged in more enlightened States, that youth might be

habituated in manly exercises, in order to wean them from that effeminacy which in a state of indolence would have bewitched their minds, and enervated their bodies.

I shall only relate what a great genius has told us, that it is

Better to hunt in fields for health unbought,
Than fee the doctor for a nauseous draught.

Here I shall close my Diary, but not without thanking Providence for sending me health and strength to enable me to attend the hunt every day the hounds went out through the season.

HUNTING

IN

1804 *and* 1805.

INTRODUCTION.

THE antiquity of Hunting can be traced back upwards of two thousand six hundred years before the Christian æra. The sacred history describes the first warriors under the name of Hunters. Nimrod is represented as "A mighty Hunter before the Lord."

In the sequel, he made soldiers of his companions, who had assisted him in hunting and destroying the savage beasts that laid waste the country about Babylon, and employed them in extending and establishing his conquests.

Bold Nimrod first the lion's trophies wore,
The panther bound, and lanc'd the bristling boar;
He taught to turn the hare, to bay the deer,
And wheel the courser in this mad career.

Tickell.

HUNTING this season commenced on *Friday, September 14th,* 1804, by taking out the hounds to draw covers in order to air them. As the land was very dry, and the sun shone very warm, I did not think of having any sport, but we killed two hares; the first did not run far; but the last shewed very good sport, and the hounds ran and hunted exceedingly well; one of them was well, the other ill saved.

Sept. 17th.—This day went beyond Marshfield, where we did not find hares plenty; but in the course of the day, three hares were started; the first, after a tolerable run, was lost; the second was killed and well saved without much running; the third shewed good sport, was killed and not saved, owing to George not being at that time on his horse.

Sept. 21st.—This day went to Codrington, where we hunted four hares; two of them were lost after running some time; the other two were killed and well saved, after good runs, particularly the last, that shewed good sport for an hour and a half of exceedingly good hunting as ever I wish to see.

Sept. 25th.—Went this day to West-Littleton, where we found plenty of hares; but, as the land was still in a very dry state, it was a very bad scenting day; there were two hares killed, one was well, the other ill saved.

Sept. 28th.—Threw off this day on Mr. Frankcom's farm, where we found plenty of hares; but

the land was still in a dry state, and not a good scent, but we, however, had a great deal of good sport; three hares were killed and well saved, and two went to Dodington-Wood.

Oct. 3d.—This day threw off at Acton-Turvil, where we had plenty of hares, and good sport. Three were killed and well saved; a good field.

Oct. 6th.—This day hunted mostly on Lord Chedworth's manors, where we found plenty of hares, that shewed most excellent sport; three hares were killed and well saved; as there had been some rain, the scent was pretty good.

Oct. 8th.—Threw off this day at Old Lands, and there we found hares in great plenty; although the land seemed to be in a good state, it was not a good scenting day; but from the number of hares started, we had plenty of hunting, but not much hard riding; three hares were killed and well saved.

Oct. 12th.—This day threw off on Marshfield-Down, where we found a martin cat, that shewed most excellent sport for a considerable time before he was killed; then we tried for a hare, but not one was to be found there or near thereto; on Kington-Down, however, one was found, that shewed good sport; and another was started on Mr. Arnold's farm, that shewed better sport even than the first; they were both killed on Tormarton manor and well saved. Two such runs in one day do not often happen.

Oct. 15*th.*—Threw off near the Elm and Ash, where three hares were killed, two of them were well saved, the other not; the first shewed pretty good sport; the second ran for three hours of middling hunting. We gave her not less than six fresh starts and many views. The scent was not good all the day.

Oct. 19*th.*—Threw off in Littleton-Wood, where we soon found a hare, which, after running one good ring, was killed; two others were killed and a rabbit, and all well saved; but they did not shew much sport; the scent was good.

Oct. 22*d.*—Hunted this day on Alderton manor, where five hares were started; the first, after a very smart run, was killed and well saved; the second, after running several good rings, was whipped off in the Gosses; the other three, after running for a considerable time, were lost.

Oct. 26*th.*—Went this day to Codrington, where we looked nearly all day before we found one hare; but in Waply Bushes we found a very stout one, which, after pretty good hunting for an hour and a half, was killed in the same bushes and well saved.

Oct. 29*th.*—Threw off near the White Gates, where we found hares too plenty; but we had good hunting and hard riding; owing to changing and having generally more than one up at a time, there was but one killed, and that not well saved.

Oct. 31*st.*—Threw off this day near Tormarton, with only four couple and a half of young hounds;

we started many hares, and had some pretty good runs, and several long views; one hare was killed and saved.

Nov. 2d.—Threw off near to the Warren Barn, where we soon found; several hares were well hunted, particularly two very stout old hares, that ran over a great length of ground. Three hares were killed and well saved; a better day's sport could not be wished, the scent being very good. The three hares that were killed were found on my farm, and two were killed there.

Nov. 5th.—This day threw off near to Burton, where we started four very stout hares; they were all killed and well saved; three of them ran and shewed exceedingly good sport; although it was a very cold high westerly wind, the scent was remarkably good all the day.

Nov. 7th.—Started this day near to Nettleton-Village, where two amazing large hares were well hunted, killed and well saved. In pursuing the first, the scent was very good, therefore we had good running and pretty smart riding; in hunting the second, the scent was not so good, therefore we had a great deal of cold hunting for a great length of time. A very good day's sport.

Nov. 9th.—Hunted this day on Kington Manor, and threw off near to Farmer Comley's barn, where three hares were started; the first ran for some time, and shewed good sport; the second ran about a mile; the third ran but a little way; then

we went and found a very stout hare in Kington-Field, that ran, it was supposed, for one hour of good hunting and hard riding as ever I saw or wished to see; they were all four killed and well saved. A very great day's sport, no person could wish for a better one.

Nov. 12*th.*—Threw off on Kington-Down, where many hares were started and well hunted; after some good runs two were killed; then one was started on my farm, that was killed after a most capital run of one hour of good hunting; they were all three well saved, after a famous good day's sport.

Nov. 14*th.*—Hunted this day at West-Littleton, where we found plenty of hares; as the scent was but middling they shewed a good deal of cold hunting; two were killed and well saved; and one, after taking a very extensive ring, was lost.

Nov. 16*th.*—Started one hare in Nettleton-Field, that ran and shewed a great deal of good cold hunting for one hour and half, and was killed on my farm, near to Tormarton, and well saved; but, it was supposed, we hunted more than one hare. We then went to my house and had a nuncheon of Old English fare. We again mounted, and another hare was found on my farm, that made towards Kington-Down, ran in the thorns for a great while, and shewed good cover hunting; then a fresh one was moved, that ran a very extensive ring for full one hour of very sharp hunting, and

as hard riding as ever I knew; was killed near to West-Littleton, but barely saved; it was a small, but a very sturdy one, for she went over every wall that she came to, and those were not a few; it was more like a fox chase than a hare hunt; before the hare was killed some of the company said it must be a fox. A better day's sport no person ever attended.

Nov. 23*d.*—This day threw off on Marshfield-Down, where two hares were started; one being a small one was soon killed; another was soon up, and after a good run was killed in Hurckcom-Wood; where another jumpt up, that (except we changed) shewed two hours of good hunting, but ran on very bad ground, for she crossed Harcom-Bottom many times, and up to Kington-Down, and back again, but saved her life by a fresh one being killed without any running. The three killed were well saved; it was a wet day and not very pleasant.

Nov. 27*th.*—Threw off near to Nettleton-Village, where a hare was soon found, which, after a good run, was killed and well saved; many hares were afterwards hunted, and several of them were entirely ran down; but as we often changed, no other hare was killed. On the whole, it was a good long day's sport, with plenty of hunting, but not a good scent.

Nov. 29*th.*—Threw off near to Burton Village, where we soon found, and in the course of the

day many hares were well hunted; two only were killed and well saved; considering a hard frost, the scent was very good all the day, therefore we had a very good day's sport.

Dec. 3d.—This day threw off near to Nettleton Village, where two hares were soon found, but they did not show much sport before they were both killed and well saved. After that it was supposed more than one hare were started; for more than three hours we had continual running, of exceedingly good hunting, such as we do not often witness, without killing: a very hard day for the horses and hounds. I scratched my face much in riding through a thick hedge.

Dec. 6th.—This day went to West-Littleton, where we soon found a hare, which, after running one ring, went into Dirham-Park; and then another was started, which, after going one good ring, ran towards Cold-Ashton, where the Bath hounds joined us, and we ran together until the hare was killed, which was on the top of Hinton-Hill, but not saved. Then with my own hounds only we tried on Kington-Down, where several hares were found; two of them ran very extensive rings; and two were killed and well saved. On the whole it was a very good day's sport. Excepting a light fog, it was as a fine day as possibly could be for the time of the year, therefore the scent was good.

Dec. 10th.—Threw off at Littleton-Drew, where many hares were middlingly hunted; the scent all

day was very bad, therefore no hare was killed. The worst day's sport we had during the season.

Dec. 14*th.*—Went this day beyond Marshfield, where several hares were but middlingly hunted; one only was killed and saved; the scent was very bad, therefore no great sport.

Dec. 17*th.*—This day threw off at Castle-Comb, where many hares were badly hunted; it was a hard frost and an exceedingly cold wind, and it was impossible for the hounds to hunt; had, however, a good field, but disappointed of sport.

Dec. 26*th.*—As the frost was still hard, and the air very cold, George and myself went out on foot with the hounds in order to air them, and several hares were well hunted; although the land was in such a frozen state, the scent through low was sweet to the hounds; they did not run hard, but gave their tongues more freely than they usually do; no hare was killed, but several were hard pressed.

Jan. 4*th,* 1805.—This day, the frost giving way, we went again on foot, and had a very good day's sport, equal to the last, but no hare was killed; but many were started by the hounds, and some of them with difficulty saved themselves.

Jan. 8*th.*—Threw off this day in Nettleton Little-Marsh, where we soon found, and had continual running all the day, only one hare was killed and well saved.

Jan. 15*th.*—Threw off near Burton, where we soon found one hare, which, after a pretty good

run, was killed and well saved; after that many hares were well hunted, but not killed; one of them was moved in a brake, near to William Gay's mill, that ran to Alderton, without the hounds being once at fault.

Jan. 17*th.*—Threw off near the White-Gates, where a hare was soon found, that was killed and well saved, after a very good run; but as rain was impending, the scent was very bad in the latter part of the day, therefore not much sport after the hare was killed; we had a pure soaking in going home, entirely wet through.

Jan. 19*th.*—Threw off at the Warren-Barn, where a very stout hare was started, that went away to Kington-Down, and back again to the New-House, and near to Tormarton, where she was killed and well saved; after that several hares were hunted, but none killed. A very cold day, and the scent middling.

Feb. 6*th.*—Threw off at Old Lands; the frost very hard, but many hares were well hunted. Owing to their number, not one was killed, yet a very good day's sport.

Feb. 8*th.*—Hunted this day on Kington-Down, where we had plenty of hares and running, likewise a great deal of good hunting. Two hares were killed, one well, the other badly saved. A very good day's sport.

Feb. 11*th.*—Threw off near to the Warren Barn, where we soon found many stout hares, that shewed

very good sport; two were killed and saved; it was supposed if the last had not gone into Dodington Park, she would have been killed, as she was hunted for some time over a great deal of ground, and apparently ran down.

Feb. 15th.—This day threw off near to the White Gates, where we soon found; as the scent was very good we had most excellent sport with three amazing stout hares as ever I saw; the hounds ran and hunted uncommonly well all the day; they were all three killed and well saved. The company out were, his Grace the Duke of Beaufort, Lord Edward, Dr. Penny, and many others. A young hare was likewise killed this day.

Feb. 18th.—This day hunted mostly on Marshfield-Down, but the hares that we hunted were moved in Robin's-Wood; they shewed pretty good sport, in making several rings, between the down thorns, and the said wood; one hare was killed and well saved. Considering the frost was hard, we had a good day's sport.

Feb. 22d.—Threw off in Nettleton Great-Marsh, where we found hares in so great plenty, that we had continual running without one death. A very bad day for the hounds and horses.

Feb. 25th.—This day threw off near to Farmer Comley's Barn, where we found a hare, that ran directly to Kington-Field and Marshfield-Down, without going into the thorns, and from thence to Marshfield-Wood. It was said that the hounds

had the hare in view all over Marshfield-Down, but did not kill her. We then returned to the barn, where another was found, that after running for some time was killed and well saved, also a rabbit. Then tried on Kington-Down, where a hare was soon up, that ran on Tormarton Manor; and several others were well hunted. On the whole a very good day's sport.

Feb. 27th.—Threw off on Kington-Down, where we found plenty of hares; two of them were killed and well saved, after two most excellent runs as ever I wish to see; particularly the last, that ran for a great length of time. As the scent was good, the hounds ran and hunted exceedingly well all the day.

March 4th.—This day hunted mostly on Marshfield and Kington-Down; had a great deal of tolerable hunting; one hare was killed but not saved; not a very good scenting day, but hares were plenty.

March 6th.—Hunted this day near to the Three Stones in Nettleton-Field, where we found several hares, that shewed very good sport; three of them were killed, the first and last were well saved; the second killed in cover and not saved.

March 8th.—This day went to Codrington, where four hares were hunted; the three first shewed but middling sport, being mostly hunted in cover; one of them was killed in Waply Bushes and well saved; after that another was moved, that ran for nearly two hours of good hunting; but

the hounds seemed to be well tired, and she was lost: not a good scenting day.

March 11*th.*—Hunted mostly at West-Littleton, where three hares or more were hunted; one ran into Dirham Park; one was lost; the other killed and well saved; and in coming over Kington-Down, a fourth was started, that ran directly to Dodington liberty; a fifth was moved, that shewed pretty good sport, but was lost. It was a very hard frost, the scent consequently not good.

March 13*th.*—Threw off near to Acton-Turvil, where we found hares in great plenty; had very good sport with many of them; three were killed and well saved. A very good day's sport.

March 15*th.*—Hunted this day at Littleton-Drew, where we had very good sport with many hares; three of them were killed and well saved, and we ought to have killed two more, for they were completely run down. It often happens that when a hare has been run for some time, and nearly down, she lays fast, and in trying to find her (where hares are plenty) a fresh one jumps up, and by that means the hunted one is lost, which was the case this day; but, on the whole, we had a good day's sport.

March 18*th.*—Threw off near to Nettleton, where two or more hares were hunted; the first was lost after running for some time; the other ran nearly three hours of some good and some

very cold hunting: she was at last killed and well saved.

March 22d.—Threw off this day on Kington-Down, where two very stout hares were started, that ran several good rings to Sherrel-Brake, and back to the thorns, and away to the Warren and round to the New House, and made several rings on Mr. Frankcom's farm, where they were both killed and well saved. As great a day's sport as was ever seen.

March 25th.—This day threw off at Old-Lands, where we found hares in great plenty, that ran and shewed very good sport; had continual running for five hours, but owing to so often changing, there was but one hare killed and that was saved. The hounds and the horses were pretty well tired.

March 29th.—Went out for the last time this season, and threw off near to the Elm and Ash, where we did not find hares in plenty, and owing to rain depending, the scent was very bad; those we found were soon lost without any great sport. We then tried at Old Lands, where we had plenty of hares, and as the scent rather mended, had great deal of good hunting; but owing to often changing no hare was killed.

Number of Hares killed in each Month; and Days the Hounds were out.

Hares killed.	*No. of Days.*	*Hares killed.*	*No. of Days.*
Sept. 11	5	*Feb.* 11	8
Oct. 21	10	*March* 16	10
Nov. 26	10	—	—
Dec. 5	6	Total 94	Total 54
Jan. 4	5	And one rabbit.	

Hares saved ..... 90 | *Hares eat* 4

Two rabbits and a martin cat.

Number of Days that no hare was killed, 7.

Field money given by Mr. Denison	£1	1	0
Ditto by others	4	16	0
Ditto by me	2	18	0
Total -	£8	15	0

Hares disposed of to the following Persons, in 1804 *and* 1805 :—

Mr. Poyntz,
George Haukings,
Wm. Golding, Marshfield,
The Hounds,
C. Codrington, esq.
Mr. Higgs, Codrington,
John Snell, West Littleton,
George Haukings,
Mr. Mannings,
Mr. Frankcom, Tormarton,
Mr. Warman, Tetbury,

Dr. Penny,
Ditto,
Farmer Cambridge, Acton-Turvil,
Richard Wilson, esq. London,
Ditto,
George Haukings,
Duchess of Beaufort,
Ditto,
Farmer Chapel, Littleton-Drew,
Mr. Matthews, Bitton,
Farmer Arnold, Tormarton,
Mr. Bryan, Badminton,
Mrs. Hathway, Pucklechurch,
The Hounds,
John Balding, West-Littleton,
Mr. Mason, Bath,
Farmer Eyles, West-Littleton,
William Young, a rabbit,
Isaac Lane, Dunly,
Mr. Higgs, Codrington,
George Haukings,
Ditto,
Dr. Penny,
Mr. Batchelor, Bath,
Myself,
Mr. Denison, Nettleton,
Ditto,
John Hall, ditto,
Farmer Clark, ditto,
Farmer Marsh, ditto,
Wm. Cotes, ditto,
Richard Wilson, esq. London,
Ditto,
Isaac Hall, Nettleton,
Mr. Ponting, Bath,
Wm. Tily, Sodbury,
Thomas Tily, ditto,
Samuel Tily, ditto,
William Arnold, West-Littleton,
Myself,
Rev. Mr. Denison, Nettleton,
Mr. Beal, Tolldown,
Joseph Balding, Marshfield,
Geo. Burkcom, ditto,
Farmer Crump, ditto,
Farmer Marsh, Nettleton,

Farmer Taylor, Nettleton,
Mrs. Hugings, ditto,
Mr. John Baker, ditto,
Mr. Wait, Marshfield,
James Beard, Chippenham,
Mr. Mathews, ditto,
Geo. Toghill, Beaks,
Mr. Fry, Marshfield,
Richard Wilson, esq. London,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
Ditto,
Ditto,
George Haukings,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
Joseph Bennett, Tormarton,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
John Palmore, Nettleton,
Mrs. Wallis, Littleton-Drew,
James Cemmery, Marshfield,
Mr. Bryan, Badminton,
Myself, a rabbit,
Rev. Mr. Swayne, Pucklechurch,
Wm. Osborne, Badminton,
The Hounds,
Elias Tuckey, Nettleton,
The Hounds,
Farmer Buckel, Nettleton,
Mr. Higgs, Codrington,
Mr. Warman, Tetbury,
James Hatharel, Acton-Turvil,
Farmer Bennett, Tormarton,
Mrs. Bethel, Nettleton,
Farmer Cotes, Littleton-Drew,
John Morley, Bath,
Wm. Osborne, jnn. Badminton,
Mr. Frankcom, Tormarton,
Joseph Bennett, ditto,
Harry Pocock, Bath,
George Haukings,

By the above account it appears that George had several hares in this season; but they were hares that were badly saved, and not fit to give away to any other person. As for myself I had only two of them, and it was but one of them that I took part of, though there is no person loves a hare better.

OBSERVATIONS

On the Season past, for Hunting, April 4, 1805.

AS it was a fine harvest, hunting commenced very early; but, as the land was in a dry state, not good sport for the first two or three weeks; from Oct. 6th to Dec. 17th, the land was in a good state for hunting, but from the above time until the 6th day of Feb. being mostly a hard frost, had no great sport, but after that time the weather was not much amiss. Hares we found in great plenty all the winter. My mare carried me exceedingly well until she died, which was on the 24th day of Dec. 1804. After that I applied to His Grace the Duke of Beaufort for a horse that was likely to carry me, which hitherto he has done admirably. George's horse has held his labour as well as usual, but not his flesh; and he himself has behaved very well all this winter. I think, for myself, I never enjoyed the hunt so well as I have this season; there has not been the smallest accident, or disagreeable circumstance during the winter, excepting the illness of Mr. Denison, which was a great disappointment to him, and to us, in losing his company.

Here I shall close my Diary, but not without thanking Providence for sending me health and strength to enable me to attend the hunt every day the hounds went out through the season.

" Our pastime done, possess we golden slumber:
" Whilst hounds, and horns, and sweet melodious birds
" Be unto us, as is a nurse's song
" Of lullaby, to bring her babe asleep."

Shakspeare.

HUNTING

IN

1805 *and* 1806.

Saturday, September 21st, 1805.

YESTERDAY I finished a good harvest, and as it was to be my last, my labourers and servants, to the number of twenty-five, regaled themselves with roast beef, plum-pudding, and plenty of old stingo; which they enjoyed the greatest part of the night, with

"Many good songs, very well sung,
"Jolly companions every one."

This day went out with the hounds for the first time, chiefly to give them an airing, and to exercise the horses. We threw off on Kington-Down, where we found plenty of hares, and had good sport, particularly with one that ran one very good ring; three were killed; the first the hounds eat, the other two were well saved. The hounds ran and hunted very well.

Sept. 23*d.*—This day threw off again on Kington-Down, where we found plenty of hares; three of them were killed in the thorns, and near them; a fourth was started in my Park, and was killed. Three of them were killed after shewing good sport and well saved; the fourth was badly saved.

Sept. 27*th.*—This day hunted mostly in Nettleton-Marsh, where we had plenty of hares and hunting, considering the dry state of the land, and a bright sun; the hounds ran and hunted very well; four were killed, and three well saved.

Sept. 30*th.*—Threw off in Littleton-Field, where and near it we found hares too plenty, therefore we had much hunting; but, as the scent was not very good, two hares only were killed, and both well saved.

Oct. 2*d.*—Threw off near Tormarton, early this morning, in order to have a gallop before breakfast; two old hares were soon started; the first made towards Dodington, therefore we gave her up; the other, after running for some time, very hard pressed in several long views, ran towards Leigh-Grove, and was lost on the Turnpike-road; after that another was hunted, killed, and well saved. The land was still in a very dry state.

Oct. 4*th.*—This day threw off at the Warren Barn, where we found hares too plenty to have any good sport; they mostly ran towards Badminton, and we were compelled to whip off; and owing to

hat, and the dry state of the land, there was but ne hare killed, and well saved.

Oct. 8th.—This day one hare was started on Mr. rnold's farm, and two on mine; the first shewed ery good sport in making several rings for an our and a half; the next was killed without any unning; the third, being a young one, did not and up long; they were all three well saved. As here had been a small quantity of rain, the scent as good. We were lucky in not starting more han we hunted.

Oct. 12th.—Threw off in Nettleton-Marsh, here we found plenty of hares. As we had had ome fine rain, the scent was very good; therefore e had a most excellent day's sport as ever I wish o see; five hares were killed and well saved; but y leaving one of the hares a short time on a wall, he hounds took possession and eat him up.

Oct. 15th.—This day threw off at the White ates, where we soon found, as it was a very good enting day; had much good hunting and hard iding; insomuch as it was with great difficulty wo were saved out of the four.

Oct. 18th.—Threw off in the Warren, where e found very soon; and as the scent was exceed-gly good, had a very great day's sport; three ere killed and well saved.

Oct. 21st.—Threw off near Burton, where we und hares very plenty; had a great deal of cold unting, but not much hard riding; though the ent was middling all the day, the hounds did not

hunt well; there were five hares killed, four of them were well saved, the other not. Had a large field—not less than fifteen horsemen.

Oct. 25th.—This day went beyond Marshfield, where we tried hours before we found; but near the town two small hares were started, and killed without shewing much sport. Then we tried on the Down, where no hare was found; but near it one was started, that ran two or three times to Robin's-Wood, and was killed in the same cover. Two of them were well saved, the other not. A very fine warm day, and a good field.

Oct. 28th.—This day went to Codrington, where we soon found a hare, that was killed after running several rings; then we went to Waple Bushes, where another was started, that shewed very great sport in making several good and extensive rings as any hare hunted this season; they were both killed and well saved; the last was completely run down. Had not only a great field, but a good one for George.

Nov. 1st.—Threw off near to Nettleton Village within the course of the day several hares were started; one of them only shewed good sport; for it was a very cold day the scent was not good; but there were three hares and a rabbit killed, and all well saved. On the whole we had a great deal of cold hunting.

Nov. 4th.—Threw off in Littleton-Wood, where a hare was found, but she was very loath to quit, and was killed near to the Ash-House, after a

ning in view for a mile. Then went to Kington-Down, where we found hares in great plenty; one, after making one ring into Kington-Field, was killed; then another was started, that ran near to the Ash-House, and there laid fast until the hounds put her up; at the same time a fresh one jumpt up, and the greatest part of the hounds took after the fresh hare, and she went into Dodington-Wood, where that part of the hounds followed; the other four couple brought back the hunted hare to Kington-Down, where they killed her. They were all three well saved.

Nov. 8*th.*—I intended going to Thos. Comley's barn, but a hare got up on his down, that ran near to Dodington liberty and back again, and was lost; then we tried near the said barn, where another was started, that after running over a few fields was killed and well saved in my park, where another was moved, that ran directly to Weather-moor-Wood; but the hounds were soon brought out with a hare, that ran to the Three Stones in Nettleton-Field, and, after making several rings, was lost.

Nov. 11*th.*—Threw off on Littleton-Down, where a hare was found, that after running two hours and an half, in making many rings, was killed and well saved.

Nov. 15*th.*—This day threw off at Littleton-Drew, where, in the course of the day, four hares were well hunted; the first and last were killed

and well saved; the second, after running several good rings, was changed for a third, which was lost after shewing most excellent sport. It was a fine day and the scent very good, therefore the greatest day's sport we had this season.

Nov. 18*th.*—This day went beyond Marshfield, where we found several hares; but owing to a very hard frost, and a bright sun shining day, the scent was altogether as bad as it was the other day good; therefore a very middling day's sport. One little hare only was killed and well saved, without any running.

Nov. 22*d.*—This day a hare was started in my park, which ran to Weather-moor-Wood; in returning the hounds started another, that, after some good runs, was killed; then another was moved on Mr. Arnold's farm, that, after running for some time, was killed in Tormarton-Street; then we went on Kington-Down, where another was hunted and killed; they were all three well saved. A very good day's sport.

Nov. 25*th.*—Threw off in my park, where a hare was soon found, that, after running several rings, was killed; then another was moved in the Warren, that after running one ring through my park another jumped up, and the hounds divided, and each part took the different hare and killed them both; and on Kington-Down two other hares were killed; they were all saved. A most excellent day's sport.

Nov. 29th.—This day several hares were started near Burton; as it was a very good scenting day, we had most excellent sport from the Three Stones in Nettleton-Field to Alderton-Grove; four of them were killed and well saved; the other not so well.

Dec. 2d.—Went this day to Yate-Common, where one hare was started, which ran in the same about half an hour, but as the hounds did not get on very fast, they gave their tongues very freely and made an excellent cry; but in going over ploughed land we were soon at fault, and lost; after that another was moved, that shewed pretty good sport; we had many views, and it was thought she would have been killed, but getting late in the day she was given up. This being the first day's going out that no hare was killed, chiefly owing to a hard frost, and a bright sun shining day.

Dec. 4th.—This day I found a hare on my farm, that took a very extensive ring to Kington-Down; which, after running several other good rings, was killed on the same down; several other hares were hunted, particularly one that was moved on the down, and killed near Nettleton. On the whole it was as great a day's sport as ever I wish to see; both of them were well saved.

Dec. 7th.—This day several hares were found on Kington-Down and in the Warren; they shewed most excellent sport; three of them were killed and well saved.

Dec. 9th.—This day, in going to Marshfield-Down, a hare got up near to Sherral Farm, that ran to Robin's-Wood and then to Marshfield-Down; from thence she took a very large ring round Kington far Field and crossed Sherral Brook, and ran over the other field to the thorns, where she was killed; as were two others after running several good rings; two of them were well saved, the other but barely so. A very great day's sport.

Dec. 20th.—Late in the day a hare was killed on the further side of Kington without any running; another was moved in Hare-Bottom, that shewed a great deal of good cold hunting for two hours, and was killed; they were but middlingly saved. A hard frost frost from the last time of going out.

Dec. 23d.—This day went to Marshfield-Down, where a hare was killed without much running; then tried in Robin's-Wood, where another was found, that ran to Marshfield-Down, where that and many others were well hunted, and shewed as excellent sport, until late in the day, as ever I wish to see; three of them were killed; two were well, the other was badly saved. We had a good field, and were obliged to whip off from one that was started, just as the last was killed.

Dec. 28th.—Threw off in Littleton-Drew near-field, where a hare was soon found, that, after a very sharp run for half an hour, fell down dead and stiff upon open ground; then many other

hares were well hunted, but owing to often changing, only three were killed; one of them well, the second was but middlingly saved, the third was killed in Alderton-Grove-Wood, and the hounds eat her. On the whole a very great day's sport.

Dec. 31st.—This day threw off at Littleworth, near Acton-Turvil, where we found hares too plenty for good hunting; as the scent was very good all the day it was hard work for the hounds and horses; but, owing to continued changing, only one was killed and well saved; she, however, shewed very great sport in making many small rings and one very extensive one, from Littleworth to the Warren-House, and then on to the New-House and ran close to Acton-road to Old-Fields, where, it was feared, she would have ran to the liberty, but she turned and came back to Littleworth, where she was killed; and there the day's sport was ended.

Jan. 4th, 1806.—This day a hare was found on Kington-Down, which, after a very smart run, was killed; then another was found on Littleton-Down, which was lost (by a fresh one geting up) after a very good hunt; another was moved on Kington-Down, and was killed after running many very good rings; those were both well saved; a fourth was well hunted, but was lost after shewing very great sport.

Jan. 7th.—Threw off in Nettleton Little-Marsh, where a hare was soon found, and after a good

hunt killed and well saved; after that many other hares were hunted, but through continually changing no other was killed; although the land and air seemed to be in a good state, the scent was but indifferent all the day; owing to starting so many hares, and having a number of views, it was a very hard day for the hounds and horses. We had a good field.

Jan. 10*th.*—Threw off on Kington-Down, where we soon found, but, as the scent was indifferent, she was soon lost; after that the scent got rather better, and we had many very good runs; two very stout hares were killed and well saved; one was killed on Kington, the other on Littleton-Down.

Jan. 14*th.*—This day threw off beyond Nettleton, where we soon found; the first and second hares ran and shewed very good sport, were killed and well saved; the land was this day in a very bad state, owing to a great deal of snow in a thawing state; but the air was pure, and therefore the scent was good in the morning; in the afternoon altogether so bad, that after killing the two first hares, three or more were badly hunted, and lost.

Jan. 17*th.*—Threw off on Marshfield-Down, where no hare could be found or near thereto, so we tried on to Kington-Wick, where we found several hares; but as they ran from cover to cover they shewed little sport, until one, I found near to the Foss-road, that ran nearly three miles, and shewed good sport, and was killed near Sherral

farm; owing to her jumping over the wall she was not saved.

Jan. 21*st.*—This day threw off near Acton-Turvil, where we found hares in great plenty; as the scent was good, we had continual running all the time we were out; four were killed, three of them well saved, the other not. A very great day's sport.

Jan. 25*th.*—Tried this day over my four Parks without finding a hare; but in the Warren one was found, that ran directly to Acton-Turvil Marsh, where, after running a few short rings, that or another hare took away across Pucklechurch Turnpike-road, and away over Nettleton West Field, and then nearly in a strait line close to Kington-Down, there she turned to the left over Kington-Field directly to Sherral Mill, ran down after the brook to Kington and went through the street, and from thence near to Mr. Thomas Comley's barn, where the hounds ran in and killed her in open field, and she was well saved. In returning another was started in Nettleton-Field, that ran to Acton Marshes, where that and many others were well hunted in making many very extensive rings; for at one time we were at Kington-Wood, then back to Acton Marshes, away to the Warren-House, ran then near to the New House, on to Old-Field, and back to the said marshes. The last hare, we seemed to have hunted, ran near to Tormarton, into a ploughed field in the occupation of Mr. Arnold, and as the said field is forty acres

and inclosed with a wall, although there are several gates and holes in it, the hare ran entirely all round the same, and came out of the same gate she entered; as the field is nearly square of just a mile in extent, and it so happened that Mr. Denison, George, myself, the hare, and the hounds were all in the field at the same time, yet we did not see her, but when the hounds came to the gate where we had entered, they were at fault, and, as we thought, the hare had made a double, so we tried back, and by that she was lost. I wished much to have killed her, but, as the sun was down, we were compelled to give her rest. Although the whole field was fallow, the hounds were scarcely at fault, but ran breast high all round it.

Feb. 6th.—From the 25th of Jan. until this day it was a hard frost and deep snow, but we threw off this morning on Kington-Down, where many hares were well hunted—making many rings, particularly one that ran near to the Ash-House, and back to the said down; but, owing to starting so many, no hare was killed. On the whole it was a great day's sport.

Feb. 8th.—Hunted again this day mostly on Kington-Down, where we found many hares, that shewed very good sport in making many rings from the thorns and back again; one hare only was killed and well saved.

Feb. 11th.—Threw off at the White Gates, where we soon found, and in the course of the day

a great many hares were well hunted; but, owing to so many fresh ones starting up, one only was killed and that not well saved. A very good day's sport.

Feb. 15*th.*—Threw off in the Warren, where a hare was found, that after making three rings to Kington-Down and back again, was killed on the said down and well saved; another was found in the Warren, that ran directly to Acton-Marsh, where many hares were well hunted, but not killed; however, at the time we intended to leave off, one one hare was started, that ran off to the left of Alderton-Grove, and away to Hibden, and then to Alderton; from thence to Grittleton and Upper Comb, where we whipped off, because some other hounds were in hearing; by that means she was not killed.

Feb. 18*th.*—This day threw off in Nettleton Little-Marsh, where a hare was soon found; and in the course of the day many others were middlingly hunted, without killing one; but, in returning home, one was found near the Warren-House, which, after a smart run for about half an hour, was killed and well saved. The scent this day was very bad. The company out were, the Marquis of Worcester, Lord Arthur, Lady Edward Somerset, and many others.

Feb. 21*st.*—Threw off near to Burton, where one hare was started, that ran to Nettleton-Marsh, where we found hares out of number, that ran in

all directions; and we soon had more packs of hounds than one, and out of them all only one hare was killed and well saved; except the first and last run, the other sport was worse than nothing.

Feb. 25th.—This day threw off on Kington-Down, where we soon found hares in great plenty, and some of them ran and shewed most excellent sport, as ever I wished to see; one hare ran through Dirham Field to the bottom of Hinton Hill; and that or another ran from thence to Tormarton to Kington-Down, and along the Turnpike-road to Nettleton-Field, and away towards Acton-Turvil, where she was killed and well saved; the first hare was likewise killed and well saved.

Feb. 28th.—Threw off near to Acton-Turvil, where we soon found; but owing to a cold north wind and a bright sun, the scent was bad all the day; therefore, we had a great deal of cold hunting, but not much hard riding; one hare was killed and well saved.

March 3d.—This day hunted mostly at West-Littleton, where three hares were started, and one on Kington-Down; they ran well, and shewed very good sport; three of them were killed and well saved; the hare that was killed on Kington-Down, had a wire round her neck.

March 7th.—This day threw off on Mr. Frankcom's farm, where we did not find hares very plenty; after trying some time two hares were started, that ran directly to Badminton Liberty;

another was moved, which, after shewing some tolerable sport, was lost; then started one on my farm, that ran to Kington-Down, where she made several pretty good rings; at last she went to Hare Bottom, from thence over Littleton-Down, away to Dodington Ash, and there the day's sport ended, without killing one hare; but the hounds and horses had a hard day, which is always the case when the hounds run into plantations where there are plenty of hares.

March 14*th*.—Since Friday last had frost and snow, we were not able to hunt until late this afternoon; when we threw off on Kington-Down, where several hares were well hunted without making any ring of consequence; but in coming away a hare was moved, that ran towards Tormarton and near to the Ash-House, from thence to Dirham Field, and near to Mr. Higgs's, at Codrington, and back to the Sand Farm, and from thence to Kington-Down, where she was killed and well saved. It was a most capital run as was ever witnessed; the hounds did it all themselves; although she was near to Dodington liberty, more than once, she did not go in, but I was in great fear she would have saved her life by so doing.

March 15*th*.—This day went to Old Lands, where we found hares in great plenty; as the scent was very good, had a great deal of good hunting; but, owing to having several hares up at one time,

one only was killed, and that we saved. A very good day's sport.

March 19*th*.—Threw off in Nettleton Little-Marsh; in the course of the day many hares were well hunted; but, owing to changing so frequently, one only was killed, and that was well saved. A good day's sport.

March 22*d*.—Hunted mostly this day on King-Down, where many hares were well hunted, and shewed very great sport, particularly the last, that was moved on the said down, which, after running for some time in the thorns, made towards Tormarton; from thence to Dodington Ash and up the Turnpike-road to the Lodge, (without going into the Plantation) where she turned to the right, through the Glebe Lands into Mr. Frankcom's farm; there she fairly fell down before the hounds, was caught and well saved. A good day's sport.

March 24*th*.—This day a hare was moved on Mr. Arnold's farm, that went directly to Kington-Down, where that, or another, was well hunted, in making many very good rings; one of them only was killed and well saved. Then went on my farm, where another hare stole away, that shewed most excellent sport, in making very extensive rings, but was lost on the Turnpike-road; a very stout hare.

March 27*th*.—This day a hare was started on Mr. Arnold's farm, that ran directly to Acton-

Marsh, where that, or another, was killed, after shewing very good sport, in making many rings; then came back to my Tree Park, where another was started, that, after running over a great length of ground, was killed, and both were well saved. A better day's sport I never wish to see; the scent was favourable, and the hounds ran and hunted exceedingly well all the day.

March 29th.—Went out this day for the last time; two hares were started on Mr. Arnold's farm; the first, after making one ring, went to Weather-moor-Wood, and it was some time before the hounds could be got out; the other went in the same manner to Dodington Plantation; and there the day's pursuit ended, and a bad conclusion of the hunting season it proved.

There was no blank day in respect of finding; and three days only that went out with the hounds all the season without killing a hare.

Number of Hares killed in each Month; and Days the Hounds were out.

Hares killed.	*No. of Days.*	*Hares killed.*	*No. of Days.*
Sept. 13	4	*Feb.* 8	7
Oct. 27	9	*March* 10	7
Nov. 22	9	—	—
Dec. 17	7	Total 109	Total 50
Jan. 12	7	And one rabbit.	

Hares saved	98	*Hares eat*	11

Field money given by Dr. Penny	£1	1	0
Ditto by Mr. Denison	1	1	0
Ditto by others	5	10	6
Ditto by me	1	18	0
Total	£9	10	6

Hares disposed of to the following Persons, in 1805 *and* 1806:—

The Hounds,
Richard Wilson, esq. London,
Ditto,
Mrs. Brown, Chippenham,
Mr. A. Guy, ditto,
The Hounds,
Dr. Penny,
John Comley, Didmarton,
Wm. Cotes, Nettleton,
The Hounds,
Mrs. Hathway, Pucklechurch,
Farmer Cambridge, Acton-Turvil,
T. Tiper, Marshfield,

Mr. Bryan, Badminton,
Dr. Penny, ditto,
Mr. Frankcom, Tormarton,
Farmer Arnold, ditto,
Myself,
Richard Wilson, esq.
Ditto,
Dr. Penny,
Farmer Mathews, Hinton,
The Hounds,
Ditto,
Ditto,
The Rev. Mr. Denison,
John Comley, Didmarton,
Mr. Bryan, Badminton,
Wm. Osborne, ditto,
Wm. Osborne, junior, ditto,
Mrs. Bethel, Nettleton,
Farmer Buckel, ditto,
John Amos, esq. Bristol,
C. Codrington, esq. Dodington,
The Hounds,
Ditto,
Farmer Davis, Marshfield,
Mr. E. Isaac, ditto,
Mr. Higgs, Codrington,
John Wickham, ditto,
Mrs. Huggings, Nettleton,
Farmer J. Taylor, ditto,
James Cambery, Marshfield,
Myself, a rabbit,
John Baldwin, West-kittleton,
Mr. Phillips, London,
Ditto,
Mrs. Wait, Marshfield,
The Rev. Mr. Swayn, Pucklechurch,
James Cambery, Marshfield,
George Hawkings,
Myself,
Mr. Mathews, Chippenham,
Samuel Dowling, Kington-Langley,
C. Codrington, esq. Dodington,
Mr. Jennings, Badminton,

Farmer Nicholas Bennett, Tormarton,
Farmer Joseph Bennett, ditto,
Samuel Tily, Chipping-Sodbury,
Farmer Marsh, Nettleton,
John Hall, ditto,
Mrs. Huggings, ditto,
George Hawkings,
C. Codrington, esq. Dodington,
Ditto,
Farmer Woodward, Marshfield,
Mr. Collet, Bath,
Thomas Tily, Chipping-Sodbury,
Farmer Crump, Marshfield,
Mr. H. Pocock, Bath,
George Hawkings,
Samuel Dowling, Michael-Kington,
Wm. Long, Hinton,
Mr. Malthus, London,
Lord John Somerset,
Mr. Downs, Marshfield,

The Duke of Beaufort,
Mr. Wilson, London,
The Hounds,
The Duke of Beaufort,
Mr. Bryan,
The Duke of Beaufort,
Mr. Taylor, Kington,
Duchess of Beaufort,
Mr. Collet, Bath,
The Hounds,
Farmer Hatheral, Acton-Turvil,
Farmer Isaac, ditto,
Mr. Wait, Marshfield,
The Hounds,
The Duchess of Beaufort,
The Duke of Beaufort,
Wm. Tily, Sodbury,
The Duke of Beaufort,
Farmer Eyles, West-Littleton,
Farmer Marsh, Nettleton,
Farmer Clark, ditto,
Mr. Warman, Tetbury,
The Duke of Beaufort,
Mrs. Snell, West-Littleton,
Wm. Arnold, ditto,

Mrs. Hathway, Puckle-church,
Mr. Golding, Marsh-field,
Farmer Chapel, Littleton-Drew,
Farmer Coats, ditto,
Wm. Tily, Chipping-Sodbury,
T. Beard, West-Yatton,
Wm. Beard, Church-Yatton,
Farmer Kington, Allington.

HERE I shall close this Season's Diary, in the same words as Mr. SOMERVILLE did his Chace.

" For here no dark design,
No wicked int'rest bribes the venal heart;
But inclinations to our bosom lead,
And weds them there for life; our social cups
Smile, as we smile; open, and unreserved,
We speak our inmost souls; good humour, mirth,
Soft complaisance, and wit, from malice free,
Smooth ev'ry brow, and glow on ev'ry cheek.
O happiness sincere! what wretch would groan
Beneath the galling load of pow'r, or walk
Upon the slipp'ry pavements of the great,
Who thus could reign, unenvy'd and secure?
Ye guardian pow'rs, who make mankind your care,
Give me to know wise Nature's hidden depths,
Trace each misterious cause, with judgments read
The expanded volume, and submiss adore
That great Creative Will, who at a word
Spoke forth the wond'rous scene: but if my soul,
To this gross clay confin'd, flutters on earth

With less ambitious wing; unskilled to range
From orb to orb, where NEWTON leads the way;
And view with piercing eye, the grand machine,
Worlds above worlds, subservient to his voice,
Who veil'd in clouded Majesty, alone
Gives light to all; bids the great system move,
And changeful seasons, in their turns advance,
Unmov'd, unchang'd himself; yet this, at least,
Grant me propitious, an inglorious life,
Calm and serene, nor lost in false pursuits
Of wealth or honours; but enough to raise
My drooping friends, preventing modest wants
That dares not ask; and if, to crown my joys,
Ye grant me health, that ruddying in my cheeks,
Blooms in my life's decline; fields, woods,
and streams,
Each tow'ring hill, each humble vale below
Shall hear my cheering voice, my hounds shall
wake
The lazy morn, and glad the horizon round."

HUNTING

IN

1806 *and* 1807.

BY way of a Preface I shall begin my Diary with what a celebrated writer said on EXERCISE.

"THE necessity of action is not only demonstrable from the fabric of the body, but evident from observation of the universal practice of mankind; who, for the preservation of health in those whose rank or wealth exempts them from the necessity of lucrative labors, have invented sports and diversions, though not of equal use to the world with manual trades, yet of equal fatigue to those who practise them, and differing only from the drudgery of the husbandman or manufacturer, as they are acts of choice, and therefore performed without the painful sense of compulsion. The Huntsman rises early, pursues his game through all the dangers and obstruc-

tions of the chace, swims rivers, and scales precipices, till he returns home no less harrassed than the soldier, and has, perhaps, sometimes incurred as great hazard of wounds and death; yet he has no motive to excite his ardour; he is neither subject to the command of a general, nor dreads the penalties of neglect or disobedience; he has neither profits nor honors to expect from his perils and conquests; but acts without the hope of mural or civic garlands, and most contents himself with the praise of his companions. But such is the constitution of Man, that labor is its own reward.

"To preserve the proper strength both of the body and the mind, labour must be regularly and seasonably minged with rest; each of them require their suited exercises and relaxations. Those only who observe a proper interchange of rest, can expect to enjoy health of body, or cheerfulness of mind: it is the only means by which the economy of the human frame can be regularly preserved."

Zimmerman.

HUNTING commenced this season on *Friday, September 12th,* 1806.—Threw off on Kington-Down, where we did not find hares so plenty as we did in the spring when we gave out: we had pretty good sport in the latter part of the day; two hares were killed and well saved.

Sept. 15*th.*—Hunted mostly this day on Tormarton-Manor, where we found hares in great plenty, and some of them shewed very good sport; four of them were killed, and three were well saved.

Sept. 17*th.*—Started one hare on Kington-Down, which, after running for some time, took off to Harkcom-Bottom, where she was lost; in the course of the day many hares were middlingly hunted: three of them were killed and well saved.

Sept. 19*th.*—Threw off in the Bushey-Park, where we found a very stout hare, that ran to Acton-Turvil and back to Holding-Mead, where she was killed in a very good stile; a better hunt no person could wish to see; after that many hares were mostly hunted in cover, excepting the last, which was well hunted by being well recovered after a long fault; she and two others were killed and well saved.

Sept. 22*d.*—Threw off near to the Warren-Barn, where we found hares plenty; as the scent was good, we had very sharp running as ever I wish to see; four hares were killed without the hounds being at a fault. A very good day's sport for the Company, and for George.

Sept. 26*th.*—Threw off near to the White-Gates, where we did not find hares very plenty, but in the course of the day many hares were hunted; as the scent was but middling, had not much good running. It was a long day's sport; three hares were killed and well saved.

Sept. 29th.—Threw off in Nettleton Great-Marsh, where we soon found; but, owing to rain coming on very fast, were compelled to give up the hunt for some time: in the later part of the day many hares were badly hunted, the scent being bad all the day; one hare was killed and well saved.

Oct. 1st.—By the request of a Rev. Sir, the hounds were this day taken out rather contrary to my promise, which put some of the company out temper; but, as the scent was good, we had good sport: three hares were killed and well saved; one of them was killed in cover when no person was near, and when taken up no hound was with her, nor was she any ways furred.

Oct. 3d.—Went this day to Marshfield-Down, where one hare was found; but, after a short run, was lost; then tried Robin's-Wood, where another was found, which after hunting her in cover for some time, as she did not like to quit the same, we drew off to Kington-Down, where another was hunted for some time and given up. It was not only a bad scenting day, but a very wet one, therefore no great sport, and no hare was killed.

Oct. 6th.—Threw off near to Burton, where we soon found plenty of hares; as the scent was good had very smart, but not long runs; not less than five hares were killed, and all well saved. This day George had a bad accident with his knife going through his hand.

Oct. 8th.—This day a hare was started, that ran directly to the liberty, and it was along time before the hounds could be got out, which, in a great measure, spoiled the day's sport; towards the latter part of the day one hare was killed, that shewed pretty good sport; two others were killed after indifferent runs; they were all three well saved. One of the company (a Rev. Sir) said that the sports of the field was his best Physician; and a great genius has told us, that it is

"Better to hunt the fields for health unbought,
"Than fee the Doctor for a nauseous draught."

Oct. 10th.—Hunted mostly this day near Tormarton, but as the land was in a very dry state, and the sun shone bright, it was a very bad scent, therefore no good hunting; and what made it still worse two of the hares went to Dodington liberty; one was killed and well saved.

Oct. 13th.—Hunted mostly at Littleton-Drew, where we did not find hares very plenty; as the land was still in a very dry state, the scent was bad, therefore several hares were badly hunted, except the last, which was killed and well saved, after running three miles nearly in a straight line; it was more like a fox chace than a hare hunt.

Oct. 15th.—This day threw off near to Burton, where we soon found; two hares only were hunted; as the scent was good, they ran and shewed most excellent sport as ever I wished to see; they were both killed and well saved.

Oct. 18*th.*—Hunted mostly this day near to Nettleton Great-Marsh, where we found hares plenty; but they did not make very long runs; as many were hunted, it was a pretty good day's sport; three of them were killed and well saved.

Oct. 20*th.*—Threw off near to Old Lands, where several hares were middlingly hunted; then tried Littleton-Field, where a very stout hare was started, that shewed most excellent sport in running in a zig-zag line to the foss beyond Nettleton-Green, where she was killed in a most capital style; and, in returning, another was killed without any running; they were both well saved; afterwards several more hares were hunted; on the whole a very good day's sport, the hounds and horses seemed to have plenty of running. His Grace was out this day.

Oct. 25*th.*—This day threw off on Marshfield-Down, where one hare was found, which, after running one smart ring, was killed; then tried Robin's-Wood and Shirrel-Brake, without finding; but when we came on Kington-Down, hares and hunters we found plenty; after running the thorns for some time, without having one good run, we gave it up; but three more hares were killed, and three out of the four were well saved.

Oct. 27*th.*—Threw off near to the White-Gates, where we soon found a very stout hare, that ran and shewed very great sport, and was killed on the foss near to Nettleton-Green; after that many

hares were well hunted; four of them were killed, and all saved, except one. A very good day's sport.

Oct. 29*th.*—Threw off near to the Warren-Barn, where we soon found a very stout hare, which was killed and saved, after making many rings; likewise another was started, that ran near to Dodington-Lodge, was killed and not saved; after that another ran into a drain and was saved; several more were hunted, therefore a pretty good day's sport; the last ran to Withey-moor-Wood.

Oct. 31*st.*—Threw off near to the Elm and Ash, where two hares were soon up; but whether we hunted them and lost them, or hunted two others, I cannot tell; although the scent was bad with the first, we had good sport with the two last, for at one time we were at Alderton, then at the Gosses, and away to the Old Lands, and back again; they were both killed and well saved.

Nov. 3*d.*—Threw off in Nettleton Great-Marsh, where we found plenty of hares, that, after running for some time, and making several rings, were killed in Nettleton South-Field, and well saved; then tried the West Field, where one hare was started, that ran into Kington-Wood, where with great difficulty the hounds were got out; then two others ran into the same wood; so ended the day's sport.

Nov. 5*th.*—This day a very stout hare was found near the Warren-Barn, that stood up before the hounds nearly an hour of good running, was killed

and well saved; after that several more hares were well hunted; two of them were killed, one was saved, the other not. A very good day's sport. Lord Wm. and Lord Fitzroy were out this day.

Nov. 7th.—This day hunted mostly in Harkcom-Bottom, where several hares were well hunted, particularly one that broke cover right and left several times, at last ran over Kington-Down, and into the field where she was put up by the hounds, which, after running in view for half a mile, was killed. In going and returning over Kington-Down, two hares were killed; one of them ran and shewed some sport, the other did not; they were all three well saved. Considering the country, we had good sport.

Nov. 10th.—This day threw off in Yate-Common, where one hare was found, that, after shewing good sport, was killed; then went towards Waply Bushes, where another was found, that was likewise killed after shewing good sport; they were both well saved; after that we went to a cover called Haine's Grove, where a fox was found, which, after running for nearly two hours, was lost near Bitton. Had a very large field—more than thirty horsemen. A good day for George.

Nov. 12th.—This day hunted near to Tormarton, where three hares were badly hunted; as there seemed to be no scent, no hare was killed.

Nov. 14th.—This day hunted mostly at West Littleton; it was some time before we found, but

soon after we had three hares up, and the hounds divided; one part ran near to Dirham-Wood, and was taken off; the other part killed their hare which was well saved. Then we went on Kington-Down, where one was started, that shewed good sport in running to Tormarton, and through my two fields, but was lost near to Mr. Poyntz's.

Nov. 17*th.*—This day went beyond Marshfield, where one or more hares were badly hunted; then tried on Marshfield-Down, where no hare was found; went to Kington-Down, where one or more hares were but middlingly hunted; in the course of the day two hares were killed in their forms, and saved. This day Doctor Jefferies joined us with six couple of hounds.

Nov. 19*th.*—Went this day to West-Littleton, where we did not soon find; the first hare was killed sitting on some ploughed land in the common field; another was moved in the same field, she ran many good extensive rings, and shewed most excellent sport, as I, or any person, would wish to partake; as for my part I never saw better running and hunting with one hare; she passed over Kington-Down four times without going once into the thorns, and was killed in Harkcom-Bottom; they were both well saved.

Nov. 24*th.*—This day went beyond Marshfield, where three hares were started, and two of them were killed; but, as they ran over such uneven ground, it was not possible to save them; then

we went on Kington-Down, where one or more hares were hunted; but, on the whole, had no great sport.

Nov. 26th.—As the day was wet we did not go out until near twelve o'clock to Kington-Down, where two hares were hunted; one was soon lost; the other, after running one good ring, went to Dodington liberty; and in returning another hare jumped up, that ran to the same liberty with the hounds; there ended the day's sport.

Nov. 28th.—Threw off on Mr. Comley's farm, where two hares were found, which, after running several good rings, were lost; near there a third was found, that was killed and well saved, after shewing very good sport.

Dec. 1st.—As this morning was very wet and windy we did not expect much sport, but near to Farmer Comley's down a hare was found, that ran to Acton-Turvil-Marsh, where we had continual running for hours; at last one hare, after taking a large ring, was killed in a piece of turnips of Mr. Arnold's, and well saved; owing to hares being too plenty in the marsh none was killed there; as the scent was very good, the hounds never ran and hunted better, nor did I ever witness a better day's sport.

Dec. 3d.—This day threw off near to West-Littleton Field, where a hare was soon fouund; and in the course of the day four very stout hares were well hunted; although the hounds ran and

hunted exceedingly well all the day no hare was killed; three times we changed; the last we drew off from and gave her rest. This day's sport was better than the last. A stone fell on my toes and bruised them much. It was a very hard day for the hounds and horses.

Dec. 5th.—This day went to Slaughterford, where several hares were well hunted; but, by some means or other, they all lost, except the last, which was killed and well saved; a very great day's sport. This day I was not out, owing to the accident of the preceding day, being the first time for ten years past that either sickness or lameness had prevented me from going out with the hounds.

Dec. 8th.—Threw off near Kington, and in the course of the day several hares were well hunted; two of them were killed and well saved. This day also was not able to go out, my foot being still much swelled.

Dec. 12th.—This day threw off in West-Littleton Field, where one very stout hare was found, which stood up before the hounds at least two hours of good hunting, and was killed in a very good stile; several more were started, and two of them were killed; they were all three well saved. out this day.

Dec. 17th.—Threw off in Robin's-Wood, where a hare was soon found, that took away to Marshfield-Down, and back again to the same cover, where she was killed; although she was heard to

cry out, but no one was near enough to save her; then we tried Kington-Bottom, where a very stout hare was found, that ran through Kington-Street, and back along the field to Robin's-Wood, where she was killed, after shewing very good sport, and was well saved.

Dec. 19*th.*—This day went to Slaughterford, where one very stout hare was started, which, after running for some time and shewing good sport, was killed in Mercom-Wood, and well saved.

Dec. 23*d.*—Threw off near to the Elm and Ash, where two hares were found, that were well hunted; the first, after a very sharp run of about twenty minutes, was killed and saved; the other, after shewing good sport for more than one hour, was lost. As I have seen so many hares lost after they have been hard run for some time, and by all appearance quite down, and, perhaps, the hounds not being at a fault before, induces me to believe that the longer a hare is hunted the weaker the scent is. At this time the land was in a moist state, and the day proved so very wet, that we were completely soaked through.

Dec. 26*th.*—This day threw off on Marshfield-Down, where a very stout hare was found, that ran several good rings, one of them all round the down, and she was killed; then we came to Kington-Down, where we soon found another good hare, that shewed nearly as good sport as that on Marshfield-Down, and that was likewise killed;

they were both well saved. Better sport no person ever attended.

Dec. 29th.—Went this day and tried West-Littleton Field, where we did not find; as it threatened rain we drew off towards Kington-Down, where one hare was started, that ran directly to the thorns, where that and another were hunted for hours, without either quitting the said thorns; they at last seemed to be completely run down, and were both killed and well saved, without any great sport.

Jan. 2d, 1807.—As the frost was this morning very hard we did not throw off near to Acton-Turvil before 12 o'clock, where we soon found; and in the course of the afternoon several hares were as well hunted as I ever wished to see; but not much hard riding; one of them was killed in cover and not well saved.

Jan. 10th.—This day went to Codrington, where we soon found a very stout hare; and, in running the first ring, the hounds ran breast high, but after that it was cold hunting for hours, and at last was lost. Then tried again, when another was found, that was killed and well saved, after shewing good sport, in Waply Bushes.

Jan. 13th.—This day I intended to go to Kington-Wick; but, in going over Mr. Comley's down, two hares were up at one time, and they both ran to Kington-Down; and after running there for some time, and making one large ring, one of them was killed, but not saved; then we went to

Kington-Wick, where one hare was soon up, that ran directly to Wrexhall Park, which, after running there for some time, and making one ring, was killed; then tried Kington-Bottom up to Robin's-Wood, where one was soon up, that was killed in the same wood without breaking cover; the two last were well saved.

Jan. 17*th.*—This day two hares were hunted; one of them was moved near Tormarton; the other was found on Mr. Comley's down; they both ran to Kington-Down, and, after running them many hours, one was killed and well saved, the other was lost. As the scent was very bad, it was cold hunting all the day.

Jan. 20*th.*—Threw off in Nettleton Great-Marsh, where we soon found; and as the scent was very good, and hares plenty, we had continual running and good hunting; one hare only was killed, and that not saved. A very hard day for the horses and hounds.

Jan. 24*th.*—Threw off at the White-Gates; in the course of the day many hares were well hunted; as the scent was very good all the day, we had constant running and hard riding; one hare only was killed in Clanvil Gosses, and not saved. An exceeding hard day for the hounds and horses.

Jan. 27*th.*—Threw off near to Acton-Turvil, where we found hares in great plenty, insomuch that no hare was killed; but the hounds were completely tired with constant running.

Jan. 30*th.*—This day two hares only were hunted; one of them was moved on Mr. Arnold's farm; the other in the Tree Park; they both ran to Kington-Down; the first, after running in the thorns for some time, made several good rings, and was lost on the turnpike-road; the other was lost in the thorns.

Feb. 5*th.*—This day two hares were moved; one on Tormarton, the other on Nettleton-Manor; the first ran to Kington-Down, where she was killed, but not saved; the other, after running for some time, and shewing good sport, was killed and well saved.

Feb. 7*th.*—This day threw off near to the White-Gates, where we found hares in great plenty, insomuch that the hounds seemed to be pretty well tired; two hares were killed, one saved, the other lost.

Feb. 10*th.*—This day two hares were moved on the Warren farm; the first ran directly to Badminton liberty; the other went to Kington-Down, where she made several good rings; after that the same hare, or another, ran from the said down in a zig-zag line to Acton-Marsh, where we immediately changed for one that ran into the liberty; so ended the day's sport, and a very great day's point it was, only it did not end so, because no hare was killed.

Feb. 14*th.*—Two hares only were moved this day; one on Tormarton, the other on Nettleton-

Manor; they ran and shewed very great sport, particularly the first; they were hunted, killed, and saved in a very good stile.

Feb. 17*th.*—Threw off near to the White-Gates, where we soon found; and in the course of the day three stout hares were well hunted; the first and last were killed; the second was lost, by a fresh one getting up, when, by appearance, she seemed entirely down; they were both well saved. It was a very great day's sport as ever I wish to see.

Feb. 21*st.*—This day we threw off in Nettleton Great-Marsh, where we soon found; and as hares were plenty, and the scent very good, had famous good sport for a great extent; for at one time we were at Burton, then at Hebden and away to Luckington; from thence to Allingrove-Wood, where the hounds brought out a hare, that ran close to Badminton-House, where we whipped them off; after that another hare was moved near Tormarton, that, after running some very sharp rings, went to Dodington liberty; so ended the day's sport, without killing one hare. It was a very hard day for the hounds and horses.

Feb. 23*d.*—Two hares were this day moved; one on Mr. Arnold's, the other on the Warren farm; they were both killed and well saved; one on Kington-Down, the other in Kington Wood; they were two very stout hares, and shewed exceeding good sport; one other hare was killed in Kington-Wood, but not saved.

Feb. 26*th.*—This day threw off in Harkcom-Bottom, where we did not find; but near thereto, two hares were found, that, after running for some time, and shewing most excellent sport as I ever did or wish to see, were killed, and by great good luck were well saved. As the scent was very good, the hounds ran and hunted all the day well, whether over greasy fallows, dirty roads, stone walls, or through other fences and covers, the hounds seemed never at a fault.

March 2*d.*—Threw off near to Burton, where where we soon found; and in the course of the day many hares were badly hunted. It was a hard day for the hounds, without any great sport; no hare was killed.

March 4*th.*—Went beyond Marshfield this day where we soon found a hare, that, after running one ring, was lost; another was moved, that was soon lost; then a third was found, that ran into a cover, where we changed for a fox; at the first check the hounds were taken off, so ended a bad day's sport.

March 13*th.*—This day went to Codrington, where three hares were middlingly hunted; but considering the cold state of the air, and the dryness of the land, not a bad day's sport; no hare was killed.

March 16*th.*—This day one hare was moved on Kington-Down, which, after running many good rings over Littleton and Kington-Down, without

going once into the thorns, was lost. As the land was in a frozen state, and the air as cold as ever I felt it, did not go out until two o'clock; but, contrary to my expectations, the hounds hunted very well. As I was the only horseman, I never enjoyed more sport with one hare as I can recollect.

March 18*th*.—This day one hare was moved near Lapdown-Barn, that, after running one ring, was lost. As the scent was bad, had no sport.

March 20*th*.—This day threw off near to Burton; and in the course of the day three hares were hunted; the first, after a good deal of cold hunting, was lost; the second was killed and well saved; the third was moved in Nettleton West-Field, that ran to Acton-Marsh, from thence to Weathermoor; so ended the day's sport. The scent was bad all the day.

March 23*d*.—Hunted in and near to Nettleton Great-Marsh, where several hares were pretty well hunted, considering a very cold easterly wind, bright sun, and the land being very dry and dusty, two or more hares seem to be runned down, but when come to a check they were all lost.

March 26*th*.—This day went to West-Littleton, where we found hares plenty; four or five were middlingly hunted; the two first were soon lost; it seemed to be no scent at all. In hunting the third, the scent rather mended, that was killed and well saved; the fourth, after running for some time, and shewing good sport, was taken up alive

by George; and as the same was a doe (she appeared not to be in young, nor to give suck) was given to Dirham keeper, to be turned out in Madam Blaithwayte's park; the last was given up, after running a few rings.

March 28th.—Threw off in Robin's-Wood, where we soon found a hare, that, after making some short rings, ran to Kington, where she crossed the brook below Mr. Hume's house, and re-crossed the same above the said house, and back again to the same wood, where we left her; then then came to Kington-Down, where we had more than two hares up at one time; and, after running there for some time, one was killed and well saved; so ended the year's sport.

Number of Hares killed in each Month; and Days the Hounds were out.

Hares killed.		*No. of Days.*	*Hares killed.*		*No. of Days.*
Sept.	20	7	*Feb.*	13	8
Oct.	32	12	*March*	4	9
Nov.	17	11	—		—
Dec.	16	10	Total	110	Total 65
Jan.	8	8			

Hares saved ..... 96 | *Hares eat* ..... 14.

Number of Days that no hare was killed, 14.

Field money given by Dr. Penny	£1	1	0
Ditto by Mr. Denison	1	1	0
Ditto by Mr. Williams	1	1	0
Ditto by others	7	19	6
Ditto by me	1	18	0
Total -	£13	0	6

Hares disposed of to the following Persons, in 1806 *and* 1807 :—

The Rev. Mr. Poyntz,
The Rev. Mr. Denison,
The Duchess Dowager of Beaufort,
Ditto,
Mrs. Hathway, Pucklechurch,
The Hounds,
Mr. Bryan, Badminton,
Thomas Beard, Tormarton,
Mr. Samuel Frankcom, ditto,
Mr. Golding, Marshfield,
Farmer Gaisford, Church-Yatton,
Wm. Beard, dittto,
Dr. Penny,
Nicholas Bennett, Badminton,
Myself,
The Rev. Mr. Swayne, Dirham,
Mr. Huggings, Nettleton,
S. Britton, Dirham,
James Holloway, near Sodbury,
Farmer Cambridge, Acton-Turvil,
The Rev. Mr. Cope, Wraxhall,
Mr. Baker, Nettleton,
Wm. Gay, Littleton-Drew,

Farmer Hatharel, Acton-Turvil,
Richard Wilson, esq.
Ditto,

Farmer Marsh, Nettleton,
George Hawkings,
The Rev. Dr. Penny,
Joseph Bennett, Tormarton,
Wm. Tily, Chipping-Sodbury,
Mr. Pinch, Bath,
Farmer Hatharel, Acton-Turvil,
Farmer Clark, Nettleton,
Wm. Coats, ditto,
Miss Bethel, ditto,
The Rev. Mr. Williams,
Mr. Hiatt, Chipping-Sodbury,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
Mr. Mannings, Tormarton,
John Sampson, Marshfield,
The Hounds,
Samuel Tily, Chipping-Sodbury,
Richard Wilson, esq.
Ditto,
The Hounds,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
The Duchess Dowager of Beaufort,
Ditto,
The Hounds,
John Sargent, Hollavington,
Farmer Matthews, Hinton,
Farmer Balding, Kington,
Mrs. Tily, Chipping-Sodbury,
Mr. T. P. White, do.
The Hounds,
Farmer Bennett, Kington,
Myself,
Harry Pocock, Bath,
Mr. Higgs, Horton,
Mr. Harvey, Chipping-Sodbury,

Wm. Arnold, West-Littleton,
Mr. John Isaacs, Marshfield,
Farmer John Nicholas, Hinton,
Mrs. Snell, ditto,
Farmer Eyles, ditto,

The Hounds,
Ditto,

C. Codrington, esq.
The Rev. Mr. Cope,
Wraxhall,

Farmer Browning,
Slaughterford,
Richard Higgs, Chipping-Sodbury,
Wm. Osborne, Badminton,
Richard Wilson, esq.
Ditto,
Miss Brown, Chippenham,
The Hounds,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
Thomas Beard, Allington,
Mr. Matthews, Chippenham,
Mr. S Dowland, ditto,
C. Codrington, Dodington, esq.
Ditto,
Richard Higgs, Chipping-Sodbury,
J. Balding, Marshfield,
George Hawkings,
Sir Charles Bamfylde,
Mr. Taylor, Sherral,
Wm. Osborne, jun. Badminton,
George Hawkings,
Duchess Dowager of Beaufort,
The Hounds,
Ditto,

The Hounds,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
The Hounds,
Thomas Beard, Tormarton,

His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
Mr. Frankcom, Tormarton,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
Mr. Bryan, Badminton,

The Duchess Dowager of Beaufort,

The Duchess Dowager of Beaufort,
The Hounds,
C. Codrington, esq.
Dodington,
John Hall, Nettleton,
March 2*d*, 4*th*, 13*th*, 16*th*, and 18*th*, all blanks,
Farmer Taylor, Nettleton,

Farmer Nowell, Kington,
Madam Blathwayte,
Thomas Beard, Tormarton.

I shall here conclude my present Diary with the following sentiments:

HERE'S a health to all Hunters, and long be their lives,
May they never be cross'd by their sweethearts or wives!
May they rule their own passions, and ever at rest,
As the most happy men, be they also the best!
And free from all care which the many surrounds,
Be happy at last,—when they see no more Hounds.

HUNTING

IN

1807 *and* 1808.

"Now, my brave youths,
Stript for the chace, give all your souls to joy!
Where are their sorrows, disappointments, wrongs,
Vexations, sickness, cares? All are gone."

Somerville's Chace.

HUNTING commenced this season on *Thursday, September* 10*th*, 1807.—This day went out with the hounds, more for airing them and exercising the horses, than for sport. One hare only was started, that, after a smart run, was killed, but not saved.

Sept. 17*th*.—This day one hare was moved on Mr. Arnold's farm, that, after a short run, was lost; then two hares were started on West-Lit-

tleton Manor, that were killed and well saved, after two pretty good runs.

Sept. 21*st.*—Threw off this day near to Acton-Turvil, where many hares were badly hunted; whether it was owing to bad scent, or some other cause, I cannot pretend to say; one hare only was killed and well saved.

Sept. 26*th.*—This day threw off beyond Nettleton, where many hares were well hunted; three hares were killed; the first was not saved, the second badly, and the last well saved. A very good day's sport.

Sept. 28*th.*—Threw off in Nettleton-Field, where and near thereto many hares were well hunted. Not less than four hares, and a small one, were killed and well saved. As the scent was very good, the hounds ran and hunted well, which made it a good day's sport.

Oct. 3*d.*—Threw off on Kington-Down, where we found hares in great plenty; one was soon killed. Soon after another was moved, which broke cover into Kington-Field, that shewed good sport, and (by appearance) was ran down, and had many sharp views, by a fresh one getting up, that ran into Kington-Wood, by that means the hunted hare was lost; and in returning another was found, which, after a smart run, was killed and well saved.

Oct. 5*th.*—This day threw off in Nettleton Great-Marsh, where we found hares in great plenty; and, as the scent was extraordinary good,

had many good runs; five hares were killed and well saved. We had likewise a decent field—not less than five of the gown, two of the quill, one of the oar, one of the whip, and some of the plough.

Oct. 8*th.*—Threw off near to the Warren-Barn, where we soon found one hare, that ran directly to Badminton liberty; then one was moved in my park; and another on Mr. Arnold's farm, that was killed and well saved, after two very good runs; the hounds ran and hunted all the day exceedingly well.

Oct. 10*th.*—Threw off on Kington-Down, where we soon found; had plenty of hunting in the thorns, but not much hard riding, except the last, which was killed near to the Warren-Barn, but not saved; two others were killed and well saved. A pretty good day's sport.

Oct. 12*th.*—Threw off near to the White-Gates, where we soon found; and in the course of the day many hares were well hunted; three of them were killed and well saved; one of them ran to earth, and with some difficulty was dug out. A better day's sport no person could wish to see.

Oct. 15*th.*—This day started one hare near to the White-Gates; after that many hares were well hunted; the scent was very good all the day; one hare, that was found near to Littleton-Drew, was killed near to Sherston, but not saved; three others were killed, but only one was saved.

Oct. 19*th.*—Threw off near to Littleton Drew, where several hares were well hunted; three of them were well saved. A very good day's sport.

Oct. 21*st.*—Threw off again near to Littleton-Drew, where three very stout hares were well hunted; they all ran for some time, and shewed very good sport, particularly the last, that ran for two hours of good hunting; they were all three killed and well saved.

Oct. 23*d.*—This day threw off at the Warren-Barn, where a very stout hare was found, which, after running for a considerable time, was killed; after that two others were well hunted, killed, and saved; then another was started in Littleworth, that ran near to Withey-moor, and then near to the Duke's park wall for a mile, and then she turned to the right to Luckington Turnpike, and away to Luckly-Brake, and (owing to the number of hares) there we whipped off.

Oct. 26*th.*—This day hunted at West-Littleton, where four hares were well hunted; three of them were killed and well saved, the other that was lost ran over a great length of ground, and, as she ran near to Old-Fields, we withdrew the hounds. The last that we killed was taken up nearly dead before the hounds.

Oct. 30*th.*—This day two hares were found in Robin's-Wood, that were killed after two very good runs; then another was started near to King-ton-Down, which was killed after shewing good

sport; two of them were well saved, the other was not.

Nov. 2d.—This day went to Codrington, where two or three hares were middlingly hunted, mostly in cover; one only was killed and well saved, after being completely ran down.

Nov. 4th.—Threw off near to Tormarton, where we soon found and killed; and in the course of the day many hares were well hunted, particularly two, that shewed very good sport, but not very long runs; three of them were killed and well saved.

Nov. 6th.—This day threw off on Kington-Down, where we found hares in great plenty; the first ran one very good ring and came back to the thorns, and, after running there for some time, was killed; and soon after another was killed without any running; they were both well saved. Then another was hunted for some time, and was whipped off from; then tried over a large tract of land before we found; this, after a smart run was killed, but not very well saved. At the time one hare cried out another got up, and she went to the thorns, where we a second time whipped off.

Nov. 9th.—Hunted mostly at West-Littleton, where we saw a hare on foot, but there seemed no scent, and she was soon lost; then another was started, that, after running and shewing good sport for two hours, was killed and well saved. A better hunt no person wished to witness. In re-

turning home two other hares were moved, and killed without much running; one of them was well saved, the other not saved. A great day's sport.

Nov. 11th.—As the morning was not very fine, we did not go out until near 12 o'clock, when one hare was moved near Tormarton, that ran to Kington-Down, which, after making several rings, and shewing pretty good sport, was killed and well saved.

Nov. 18th.—This day a hare was moved in the Tree-Park, which, after a sharp (but not long) run, was killed and well saved. After that another was found near the Warren-Barn, which, after running one very good ring, we changed, and changed again, until we were near to the liberty, when we were compelled to draw off.

Nov. 23d.—This day tried on Kington-Down, without finding, and over many other fields before we did find; and, as the land and air were in a very cold and wet state, there were no scent, therefore, a great disappointment to several persons; no hare was killed. A worse day's sport I never saw.

Nov. 30th.—Hunted mostly this day at West-Littleton, where we soon found and soon lost; then another was found, which, after a very smart run, was killed and well saved; then, in coming over Kington-Down another was started, which, after running there for a short time, we drew off. On the whole not a good day's sport.

Dec. 7th.—This day a hare was found on Mr. Comley's down, which, after running several rings, by some means or other, was lost; then another was found near the Warren-House, which ran well for some time, but, at the time, she seemed completely run down, a fresh one got up, that ran directly to Withey-moor-Wood, where the sport ended for that day; but it happened that while we were getting the hounds out of cover one of them lay back, and (as we supposed) had started the hunted hare, and after running and turning her several times in the same field, caught her; if we had not ran to the liberty, I might have called it a pretty good day's sport.

Dec. 14th.—In the course of this day five hares were well hunted; the first was moved in Robin's-Wood, which, after running the same for some time, was killed and not saved; then near the same cover another was started, that ran directly into the same wood, which, after running there for some time, broke cover away into King-ton-Field, and round into the same cover, where she lost her life, and was not saved; then went to Marshfield-Down, where two more hares were found, which, after running the thorns for some time, and each making a ring, were both killed and well saved; the other hare was started, as George was returning home, in Sherral-Bottom, that ran several rings; but it so happened that George had no horse, and that no person either on

foot, or on horse, saw any part of the hunt, nor was it possible for George to get off the hounds, until they hunted near to Tormarton. By George's account the hounds ran over more ground after that one than all the other four hares that were killed.

Dec. 18*th.*—This day a hare was started near to Tormarton, which ran directly to Kington-Down; the same or a fresh one ran from thence to Kington-Wood, where she was killed, but not saved; in returning another was started, that ran near to Kington-Wood, and was lost; then came back to Kington-Down, where another was started, that, after running the thorns for some time, made towards Kington-Wood, but was killed and well saved; then returned to the said down, where we soon found, (as I suppose) the first hare we hunted there in the morning; she ran several good rings, and we whipped off. Considering the cold state of the air, the hounds ran and hunted exceedingly well all the day, in the land there was but little frost; but the trees and bushes had the appearance of winter being encrusted over very thick with frozen particles; on the whole a very good day's sport, and we had a great field.

Dec. 21*st.*—This day a hare was found on Mr. Arnold's farm, that, after running for some time, was lost, as we supposed; but, on trying a short time, we found the hunted hare, or a fresh one, that, considering the thick frosty air, afforded some

very good runs. A pretty good day's sport; one hare was killed, after running in view for more than a mile, but not saved.

Dec. 26th.—This day two hares were started on Kington-Down; the first, after running the thorns for a considerable time, without breaking cover, was killed; then another very stout one was found, that, after making several extensive rings, was likewise killed; they were both well saved. The weather this day was very cold and wet; the scent was very middling, therefore, had a great deal of cold hunting, as the last hare took large rings, and the hounds always made out their faults; it was a good day's sport.

Dec. 28th.—This day a very stout hare was found on Farmer Comley's down, where she took a circle round the same to the Two Gates, and then away to Kington-Down thorns, where she did not stop long; then ran to Littleton-Down, which she ran partly round, and then into Littleton-Field and away to the place, where she turned to the right away into Marshfield parish, and back again to Littleton-Bottom, and away through Sherral-Brake; then turned up into Kington-Field, and away to Farmer Comley's barn, where she made a short stop; but stole away, without the hounds catching a view, to Kington-Wood, there the hounds in a few minutes brought her out in view and killed her, and she was well saved. At the time the hunted hare was killed, part of the hounds

killed another hare, so near in cover that George heard her cry out, but could not save her. Considering the wind was very cold and blustering, and it rained all the time we were out, we had good sport, though soaked to our skins.

Dec. 30th.—This day one hare was started on Kington-Down, that, after running in the thorns for some time, took up the down, along the Turnpike-road, and across Littleton-Down, into the field, and away to the village; then crossed the bottom, back again to the field, and over Littleton and Kington-Down, where she ran in the thorns for a short time, was killed and well saved; the hounds hunted exceedingly well considering the weather, for it rained, hailed, and snowed nearly all the time we were out, and it was very cold.

Jan. 1st, 1808.—One hare was started near to Nettleton West-Field, which ran several pretty good rings; the hounds ran and hunted very well, but when she seemed to be nearly done she made her rings very short, only ran from hedge to hedge, and lay fast, which she did in a very odd place—on a wall and under an ivy bush; she was very unwilling to quit her lurking place, although the whip was used very smartly on the said bush, and she was then pushed out with the handle; the hounds hunted her up to the said bush and then were at a fault, and the scent dying away she was not killed.

Jan. 5th.—This day hunted at Acton-Turvil, where we found hares in great plenty, insomuch

that we had continual hunting; some time had two or three packs running as many ways; as the scent was very good, the hounds and horses were pretty well tried without one hare being killed.

Jan. 8th.—This day went beyond Marshfield, where one hare was started, that, after a short run was killed and not saved; after that another was moved, which, after some cold hunting, she took away across several bottoms beyond Ashwick, and into Coldhorn-Field-Down, and round to the Star on Marshfield-Down; and as the hounds came to a sudden check, it was thought that she was run down, and some person or a dog, had caught her, but although she ran near to cover 'most all the way she hardly entered one, as she took all the walls. It was more like a fox chase than a hare hunt; such a one is seldom seen.

Jan. 12th.—This day one hare was moved on Kington-Down, that, after running there for some time, took one good ring to my park, where she was killed and well saved; and in returning another was moved in the said park, that ran to the said down, when that, or another, ran several good rings; at last one ran to Kington-Wood, where we drew off. A good day's sport.

Jan. 15th.—This day threw off in Nettleton Great-Marsh; as it was a hard frost, the air very cold, and dangerous riding, it was impossible for the hounds to hunt; as hares were very plenty had

a great many views and short runs; one hare and a rabbit were killed and well saved.

Jan. 20*th.*—This day, in respect of frost, was not much better than the last, but with rather a better scent; one hare was moved on Kington-Down, that, after running the thorns for some time, took a short ring into Kington-Field, where a fresh one got up, that ran into Harkcom-Bottom, where we had a fresh start; then she ran near to West-Littleton, where we gave her another start, and then ran near to Weston-Town; as George and myself were not up with the hounds they were taken off. In going over Kington-Down, the same hare that we hunted in the forepart of the day was moved again, which ran the said thorns for near an hour of good running and hunting, as ever I wished to see; she was killed and well saved.

Jan. 28*th.*—As the weather has been of late very unfavourable for hunting, and this morning proving fine, I took out the hounds to Acton-Turvil, where we had plenty of good hunting and running for about an hour; one hare was killed and well saved, without George's presence.

Jan. 29*th.*—This day threw off again at Acton-Turvil, where we found hares in great plenty; as the scent was very good, had continual running and good hunting all the day, with a very decent company; one hare was killed and well saved.

Feb. 2d.—This day a hare was moved near to West-Littleton-Wood, which, after a short run, was lost; soon after the same, or another was moved, that ran to Kington-Down, from thence she made several good rings, and was killed in the said thorns, and well saved; and directly another jumped up, which, after a short run, was lost; then another was moved on Farmer Arnold's down, that ran over a great length of ground and was lost; then went to the Warren, where I found another, that, after taking a ring near to the New House, and back through Mr. Frankcom's, Mr. Arnold's, and Mr. Thomas Beard's farms, to Kington-Down, where, after making a ring back to the Warren, and near to Kington-Down, was lost; then, in returning, another jumped up near to Tormarton, which ran near to the Warren-Barn and back to Kington-Down; where she soon broke cover and ran close to the same barn. As it was getting late, and the hounds and horses were pretty well jaded, we drew off; the scent all the day was very good, except on fallows, where every hare was lost, except the one killed. A very great day's sport.

Feb. 5th.—This day hunted at Acton-Turvil, where three hares only were hunted, killed and saved; as the scent was very good two of them shewed extraordinary good sport for nearly three hours; as for my part I have seldom seen so much

sport in one day, because, in hunting the last hare, I was the only person that had a horse.

Feb. 9*th.*—This day we threw off at West-Littleton, but did not find, until we came on the middle of Littleton-Down, when a hare got up and ran to Kington-Down, where we found hares in great plenty; but they did not chuse to leave the same, only making a few short rings and back again; one hare was caught and heard to cry out; but she extricated herself by loosing part of her pelt; on the whole not a very good day's sport.

Feb. 16*th.*—The weather of late has been very unfavourable for hunting, but as this day was rather fine, George took out the hounds to Nettleton, in order to air them, but when there he was induced to try for a hare, and soon found; but, contrary to expectation, the scent proved very good, so much so that the hounds ran and hunted well all the time they were out, and never were at a fault; one hare was so completely run down that she several times dropped before she was killed; she was well saved.

Feb. 18*th.*—This day threw off near Tormarton, where we looked over many fields before we found; a hare, however, got up in the middle of the hounds, and was killed without any running. Then went on Kington-Down, where one was soon found, that, after running the thorns a short time, took over Kington-Field, near to the Village, where

she turned up after the brook to Sherral-Brake; from thence crossed part of Kington-Down into Harkcom cover, or otherwise Hare-Bottom; from thence ran near to West-Littleton, where she turned to the right across the field, and over that down into Kington-Down, when, after some smart hunting in the thorns, she broke cover and made a ring into Tormarton manor, and back to the said thorns all in view, where she was soon killed. They were both well saved. A large field expressed the highest satisfaction at the day's sport.

Feb. 20th.—This day threw off near to the Warren-Barn, where we found hares by dozens; and as the scent was very good, had continual hunting; but the worst part was that most all of them ran towards the liberty, and unfortunately it was nearly two hours before we could get the hounds home. We killed one hare and well saved her; when George and myself went home at last without any of the dogs and put up our horses; then set out on foot after them, and about nine couple were brought home; the rest returned in the course of the night.

Feb. 22d.—This day went to Marshfield-Down, where one hare stole away; as it was a hard frost, and the wind very cold, it was impossible for the hounds to hunt, therefore she was soon lost; after that another was moved near to Kington, which ran close to the Village for a considerable time, and two or three other hares were middlingly

hunted; no hare was killed, nor was it a very good day's sport.

Feb. 25th.—This day two very stout hares were started in West-Littleton-Field; they both ran into Dirham-Field, where they made several very good rings; the first was killed near to the Ash-House, without going into the liberty; and the other was killed about the middle of Hinton-Hill, after going into Dodington park, and near to Mr. Codrington's house, where part of the hounds brought her out without starting a fresh one. The two hares stood up before the hounds not less than two hours of as good cold hunting, as I, or any other person, had ever seen, or wished to see; they were both well saved. A very great day's sport.

Feb. 29th.—This day went to Codrington, where we soon found; and, by hooping and hallooing, or some other cause, was soon lost;* then went to Waply-Bushes, where another hare was soon up, that was killed near to Pucklechurch, and well saved, after a most excellent hunt as any person wished to see. Had a very great field.

March 3d.—This day tried over several fields without finding; but, on Kington-Down, we had more than one up at a time, which, after running the thorns for some time, ran over Kington-Field into Harkcom-Bottom, where she was lost; then tried up Littleton-Bottom, where one was started,

* The above hare was coursed by a dog.

ad she ran into Harkcom-Bottom; and after lodging there, and making several small rings, was illed and well saved. Then came back to King-on-Down, where we soon found a hare, from hich, after running in the thorns and making one ood ring, we took off the hounds. The scent as not very good; the day's sport consequently ifferent.

March 5th.—This day went to the farther end f Nettleton-Field, where one hare was started, nd, after making one ring, ran into Comb-Cas-; then another was moved in the same field, t ran several rings, and that, or another, was d near to Nettleton-Marsh; they were both ll saved. At this time we endeavoured to take e hounds, but the hares being so plenty it s nearly two hours before we could do it; they n twice to Alderton-Grove, and into the Duke's k and away to Allingrove-Wood, and back the park again; on the whole had a very long , and plenty of sport.

March 7th.—This day being very cold, the land and dusty, I did not expect any good hunting; e morning the scent was very bad; in the after-n rather better, and the hounds ran and hunted eedingly well; two hares were killed and well ed, and several others were well hunted. The was started in my park, and ran nearly to gton-Down, and, I suppose, was lost; but as ther was found we did not try much for the

lost one; then another was moved in the Warren, that was killed without much running; then another was moved in Acton-Marsh, that was killed after shewing good sport. On the whole a pretty good sport.

March 10*th.*—This day went to West-Yatton, where we soon found one hare, that ran directly to Mercomb-Coppice and away to Collom-Wood on Comb-Manor; and, owing to the number of hares and rabbits there, we were compelled to take off the hounds; then another was moved near to Giddy-Hall, that, after running several good rings and shewing great sport, the hounds were taken off. No hare was killed; the air still continued very cold, and the land very dry and dusty.

March 12*th.*—This day threw off in Nettleton Field, where we soon found; after running for some time, and shewing good sport, a hare was killed in Acton-Turvil-Marsh; then another was moved, and was likewise killed and well saved; more were hunted, but lost. As the air was still very cold, and the land exceedingly dry, we had better hunting than any person could reasonably expect.

March 14*th.*—This day threw off near to the Elm and Ash, where we soon found; after running several hares for a considerable time, two of them were killed and well saved. The air cold and the land still very dry, with a brisk north-easterly wind; the sport not much amiss.

March 17*th.*—Threw off this day at West-Littleton, where we soon found, and in the course of the day four hares were well hunted, considering the cold state of the air, and the land being so very dry; the first hare ran several good rings, and the hounds hunted her very well, making out several long faults, until a sheep dog coursed her, by that means she was lost; then two other hares were moved, that, after running for some time, was lost; then went on Kington-Down, where we soon found, killed, and well saved, after running there for some time.

March 19*th.*—As it snowed all this morning, and being very cold, I did not think of going out with the hounds, until a Gentleman, from Devonshire, wished to see my hounds hunt; therefore, as it was late in the day, we threw off on Kington-Down, where, after trying for some time, one hare was found, that soon broke cover and ran a very good ring round Kington-Field and back to the thorns, where she was killed and well saved, without the assistance of George. The weather was so bad that he did not think necessary to come; the hounds ran and hunted well all the time, contrary to our expectation.

March 21*st.*—As this day proved mild and fine, it was expected that the scent would be very good; but in the morning it was very indifferent; in the latter part of the day rather better. The first hare that we moved was in Nettleton-Field, that ran to

Acton-Turvil-Marsh; after a great deal of running that, or another, was killed and well saved; then went back to the said field, where another was started near to the houses, that ran a very great ring, mostly in the roads, with a high scent, until a very sudden check; it was thought by the company that the hare was caught or killed by some means or other; and, by trying after the lost hare, another was killed and well saved, without any running. The day's sport not much amiss.

March 24th.—This day hunted mostly at Littleton-Drew, where we found hares in great plenty, though the day proved very cold, with frost and snow; but, notwithstanding, there was good scent all the day long, and there was more good hunting and running than I ever saw in one day. As for the hounds, horses, and their riders, they seemed to be all pretty well jaded, but whether any of the hares were tired, or not, I could not pretend to say; but, be that as it may, not one hare was killed, after all the hunting and running.

March 26th.—This day hunted again at Littleton-Drew, where we had nearly as much good hunting and running as we had the other day; in respect of killing had greater luck; three hares were killed and well saved; and here ended our year's sport.

Number of Hares killed in each Month; and Days the Hounds were out.

Hares killed.	*No. of Days.*	*Hares killed.*	*No. of Days.*
Sept. 12	5	*Feb.* 10	9
Oct. 34	11	*March* .. 16	11
Nov. 13	8	—	—
Dec. 13	7	Total 114	Total 59
Jan. 6	8	And one rabbit.	

Hares saved ..... 90 | *Hares eat* ..... 14.

Number of Days that no hare was killed, 5.

Field money given by Dr. Penny	£1	1	0
Ditto by Mr. Denison	1	1	0
Ditto by Mr. Richard Higgs	1	1	0
Ditto by others	10	6	6
Ditto by me	1	15	6
Total -	£15	5	6

Hares disposed of to the following Persons, in 1807 *and* 1808 :—

The Hounds,	George Hawkings,
The Duchess Dowager of Beaufort,	Wm. Coats, Nettleton,
Ditto,	Lord John Somerset,
Dr. Penny,	Farmer Clark, Nettleton,
The Hounds,	John Hall, ditto,

Cornelius Palmer, Nettleton,
Mr. Manning, Tormarton,
The Hounds,
Mr. Poyntz, Tormarton,
Mr. Bryan, Badminton,
John Poole, ditto,
Farmer Hatharel, Acton-Turvil,
Mr. Frankcom, Tormarton,
The Rev. Mr. Swayne, Dirham,
The Rev. Mr. Williams, Chipping-Sodbury,
Myself,
The Rev. Mr. Denison, Nettleton,
Farmer King, Kington,
The Hounds,
Mr. Trewman, Ld. Chedworth's steward,
Ditto,
The Rev. Dr. Penny,
The Hounds,
Mr. John Dowding, Dodington,
The Hounds,
Ditto,
Mr. Gaby, Chippenham,
Ditto,
Farmer Chapel, Littleton-Drew,
Mr. Guy, Chippenham,
Ditto,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
C. Codrington, Dodington, esq.
Mr. Rd. Higgs, Chipping-Sodbury,
Harry Pocock, Bath,
John Balding, West-Littleton,
Farmer Rallings, ditto,
John Morley, Bath,
Mr. Joseph Balding, Marshfield,
Mr. William Golding, ditto,
The Hounds,
Mr. Higgs, Codrington,
Duchess Dowager of Beaufort,
Ditto,
Thomas Beard, Tormarton,

Farmer Bennett, Kington,
Farmer Nowell, ditto,
Farmer Collet, Hollavington,
The Rev. Mr. Cope, N. Wraxhall,
The Hounds,
Mr. Hilliar, West-Littleton,
Farmer Eyles, ditto,
Mr. Bryan, Badminton,

Wm. Arnold, West-Littleton,
Mrs. Blathwayte, Dirham,
The Hounds,
Ditto,
Mr. George Phillips, London,
An Hibernian, Bath,
The Hounds,
Thomas Beard, Tormarton,
The Hounds,
John Pocock, London,
Farmer Arnold, Tormarton,
Mr. Madison, Bath,
The Hounds,
C. Codrington, esq. Dodington,

The Hounds,
The Rev. Mr. Tarpley,
Farmer Isaacs, Acton-Turvil,
Myself, a rabbit,
Mrs. Blaithwayte, Dirham,
Farmer Cambridge, Acton-Turvil,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
Ditto,
The Duchess Dowager of Beaufort,
Ditto,
Mrs. Low, Bath, from Hawkings,

C. Codrington, esq. Dodington,
Mr. Gaby, Chippenham,
The Rev. Charles Bryan,

Samuel Dowling, M. Kington,
Mr. Matthews, Chippenham,
Mrs. Tily, Chipping-Sodbury,
Farmer Holbrow, Kington,
Mrs. Huggings, Nettleton,
Samuel Tily, Chipping-Sodbury,
Wm. Osborne, jun. Badminton,
James Reeves, Acton-Turvil,
Mr. Phillips, London,
Wm. Tily, Chipping-Sodbury,
Farmer Chapel, Littleton-Drew,
Mr. Warmen, Tetbury,
Mr. Hiatt, Chipping-Sodbury,
The Rev. Mr. Watkins, Marshfield,
Mr. Baker, Nettleton,
Mr. Wait, Marshfield,

Farmer Coats, Littleton-Drew,
Farmer Bennett, Tormarton-Warren,
John Hall, Nettleton.

OBSERVATIONS.

WE found Hares in great plenty all through the season, and we killed plenty; but the worst part is in giving them away, there being so many persons that look up to me for them, it is with difficulty who to satisfy first. The first person I think of is His Grace the Duke of Beaufort and family, not only because he grants me the hunt of Tormarton, West-Littleton, Acton-Turvil, and Littleton-Drew, but because those and other manors are supplied with hares from his liberty. The hunt on the above manors would hardly be worth looking after, if I was denied on Nettleton and Kington Manors. As matters stand at present, Mr. Codrington undoubtedly has a right to some hunted hares, for Kington and Marshfield hunt, likewise the Owners of Nettleton Manor, and each Farmer of the above parishes, whose farms we ride over; some years I put out four or five couple of puppies to different persons, and I cannot deny them a hare each. As Mrs. Beard has many friends and relations, they also look up to me for hares. As for myself, although no person loves a hare better, it is seldom I afford myself more than one in the whole season; therefore—

Hares, good Sir, when stuff'd with thime and sage,
Give strength, they say, and vigour to old age;
To life's blunt edge sport gives a kind of whet,
And Hare is all the venison I can get.
The aged Patriarch loved this savory meat,
And why should I not more enjoy and eat?

ACCIDENTS

Were but few; I had a most serious one in alighting from my mare, when my body came first to the ground, owing to something of an epileptic fit. I am sorry to say I have had something of the same several times. From sudden and unprovided death, *Good Lord* deliver me!—*Amen.*

HORSES.

Owing to a chill both of my Hunters were ill for some week's; sometimes I was on foot, and sometimes George; it was thought at one time that George's Mare would get the better of her complaint, but a second relapse taking place, she died on or about the 4th day of February, 1808. But by great good luck George was well mounted by a friend, for the remaining part of the year.

HOUNDS

For the year past, and particularly during the hunting season, have been very stout and healthy, I never knew them better; never too low nor too high in condition; and, considering the

quantity of cold frosty weather, they never ran and hunted so well; and they killed the last thirty one hares without eating one.

As it is more than nine years since I have kept the hounds on my account, which is much longer than I thought I should retain them; but owing in some measure to the complaint in my head, and the great expence attending them in respect to the duty to Government, and the dearness of their food, I have some thoughts of parting with them, provided I can do it to my satisfaction in respect to their value, or of ten couple of the largest, and then to have a few couple of small ones and hunt them myself; I have advertised them, but no person, as yet, (April 18, 1808) said any thing about them; therefore, it seems, they are but middling stock to dispose of at this time of the year.

POACHING.

By the quantity of Hares left at the end of the season, I think Poaching in some measure has been very much checked, in such a manner that the Hares will this summer injure the corn to a considerable degree. By what I have heard, there has been a great number of hares caught by greyhounds, and I think its very right, that Coursing as well as Hunting should be encouraged, for why should Hares be kept and preserved at great expence for Poaching only.

HUNTING

IN

1808 *and* 1809.

INTRODUCTION.

"COME, Gentlemen Sportsmen, where ever you be,
All you that love Hunting draw near unto me."

AUTUMN.

"LET other hail Spring's rip'ning beauties
Or the scorching Summer's sway—
These are past:—in due succession,
Autumn claims the Poet's lay;
Farmers now, with joy exulting,
View their cultivated soil,
Receiving from its ample produce
The sweet reward of all their toil;
Such are thy delights, mild Autumn,
Such the joys that thou canst give;
I, with gratitude, accept them,
And will prize them whilst I live."

HUNTING commenced this season on *Monday, September 19th,* 1808.—Went out with ten couple of hounds on Littleton-Down, but could not find there, nor in several large fields of turnips and stubble pieces in the parish of Tormarton; it was a bad beginning; but on Kington-Down we found plenty of hares; not less than three up at a time in view of the hounds; but, although the hounds ran and hunted well in the thorns, no hare was killed.

Sept. 22d.—This day threw off near to the Warren-Barn, where we soon found a very stout hare, that, after running for some time, was killed in good stile; the hounds ran and hunted exceedingly well; then a small one got up and was killed; after that we returned home and nunchioned; then went on Kington-Down, where we soon found another stout hare, that ran over a good deal of ground, (mostly on roads) which, after shewing good sport, was killed; the three were well saved, after a very good day's sport.

Sept. 26th.—Threw off at Acton-Turvil, where we found hares in such plenty that it was with great difficulty to keep the hounds together; had hunting and running in abundance; three hares were killed and well saved. A pretty good day's sport.

Sept. 29th.—Threw off near to the Warren-Barn, where we found hares in great plenty; had continual running; but, after changing, at last

we had a very good run with a remarkably large hare, that shewed good sport for more than an hour; when killed, I had the curiosity to know his weight, which was eight pounds and three quarters; then tried towards Kington-Down, where another was started, that shewed good sport for an hour, was killed and well saved. The hounds ran and hunted well all the day.

Oct. 3d.—Threw off this day near to Nettleton, where we soon found; and, in the course of the day, three hares only were hunted, killed and well saved. As it was a very fine day the scent was exceedingly good; a better day's sport I never wished to see; the hounds ran and hunted well all the day.

Oct. 6th.—Threw off at the White-Gates, where we soon found a hare, that, after running for some time went to Old Lands, where we whipped off; then another was started, that, after running several good rings, was killed and well saved; then another was moved, that ran and shewed good sport for some time, until a fresh one got up, when again we took off the hounds and returned home. The scent not good.

Oct. 11th.—This day threw off near to the Warren-barn, where we soon found a hare, that ran directly to Badminton liberty, where the hounds were headed; then another was moved in the same field, that, after a smart run, was killed; soon after another small one got up, which

was killed; then in the Tree Park one was found, that, after another smart run, was killed; they were all three well saved. We then went on Kington-Down, where another was moved, that, after a great deal of cold hunting, was lost. Not a good scenting day.

Oct. 14*th.*—The pack threw off near to Viner's house; as I was a few days from home, did not attend this day's hunt, but I understood that three hares were well hunted, killed, and well saved, and it turned out a good day's sport.

Oct. 18.—Threw off again at Viner's house, where we soon found, and in the course of the day many hares were well hunted; although the scent was not good there were many very good runs, and a great deal of cold good hunting. His Grace the Duke of Beaufort, Lord John, and many others were out this day, who said that the hounds hunted and made out their faults exceedingly well; two hares were killed, one well, the other badly saved; more hares would have been killed had not several fresh ones got up at the time the hunted ones were apparently ran down; twice we were near to the liberty, but did not run in.

Oct. 21*st.*—Threw off this day near the White Gates, where we soon found a stout hare, that ran into Littleton-field, and away to the Elm and Ash, and after taking a ring there was lost; then returned near to Littleton village, where another was moved, which, after running for some time,

was lost; then another was moved near to the same place, that ran several extensive rings; sometimes we were in Nettleton-Marsh, then away to Alderton-Grove, and after running through the wood and back again, she was killed, but not well saved.

Oct. 26th.—This day hunted on Marshfield-Down, where we found hares plenty, but as the weather was very stormy, and the wind boisterous, there was no scent; therefore, as the hares were not hard pressed, they did not like to break cover, and, on the whole, not a good day's sport; one hare only was killed, which was well saved; another was catched, which the hound had a fair tumble over, but the hare, with great difficulty, escaped from that hound, and all the pack.

Oct. 28th.—This day hunted mostly on Kington-Down, where several hares were well hunted; although the scent was not good I have never seen more cold hunting in one day, with some good running; about noon we had a very hard storm of hail and rain, and we were wet to our skins; we were rather unlucky in losing two or three hares, until one that ran into the park pool; but as none of us saw her go in, some doubted her being there, while others insisted that she was, which proved to the case; therefore, she was neither catched nor killed, but was well saved; in returning, a hare got up in the said park, which, after running about a mile, was killed and well saved.

Nov. 1*st.*—This day threw off near Biddeston, where we soon found a small hare, which was soon killed; then tried over many fields without finding; then hunted Mercomb-Wood, where we found more hares than one; but, owing to the leaves falling, the hounds could not hunt them so well as to make them quit the same for any length of time. In returning over a piece of land that we tried in the morning, a hare got up, and after running several rings and shewing good sport, was so completely overcome that she laid down at full length, and allowed George to take her up without even a struggle.

Nov. 4.—This day threw off on Marshfield-Down, where only one hare was hunted; as it was a cold fresh air the scent was not good; after hunting for two hours in the thorns, and making four rings, and had her in view many times, was killed and well saved; then tried Sherrel-Brake, where a stout fox broke cover, and ran over part of Kington-Down, and away to Harcom-Bottom, where he crossed and re-crossed, and then ran near to West-Littleton and to Toll-Down, and it was supposed he went to Dodington-Park; then we whipped off, so here the day's sport ended. If Reynard had not appeared we should have tried on Kington-Down for a hare, and that would have pleased me much better.

Nov. 7*th.*—This day went to West Littleton, where we soon found two hares in their lower field,

and they soon ran to the brake, and away through the wood, and into Dirham-Park; then another was moved, near to Littleton-Down watering-place, that ran to Kington-Down, where two hares were killed and well saved; but, on the whole, it was not a very good day's sport.

Nov. 10*th.*—Threw off this day near to the Elm and Ash, where a hare was soon found, which, after a very sharp run, was killed; after that, two others were moved, that ran many good rings, but were lost by a fresh one getting up, that, after running for some time, was killed. They were both well saved. A very good day's sport.

Nov. 12*th.*—This day threw off near to Tormarton, where we soon found; in the course of the day two very stout hares were hunted; they stood up before the hounds three hours of good hunting; they were both killed and well saved. A good day's sport.

Nov. 14*th.*—Threw off again near to Tormarton, where a hare was soon found; and, in the course of the day four hares were well hunted. The first ran directly to Kington-Down, which, after making one ring from thence, and running the thorns for a short time, was killed; then went again on Mr. Arnold's farm, where another was found, that showed very good sport for some time, but at last she ran towards the Bath road, when it was supposed she entered Dodington liberty, therefore, the hounds were taken off. Then tried

again on Mr. Arnold's farm, where another was found, which, after running several good rings, took away towards Leigh-Grove-Wood, but did not reach it, because there were coursers out, and the hare ran directly to the greyhounds, and was killed. Then tried on the Warren-farm, where another was moved, that, after running for some time, and making several rings, was killed; they were both well saved; two larger hares I never killed in one day. A good day's sport.

Nov. 17*th.*—This day threw off in Kington-West-Field, where one hare was moved, that ran through the thorns, and away to the Turnpike-road, where she was lost; then went into Nettleton-Field, where we looked over many pieces of land before we found a hare; that, after running several rings, was likewise lost on the road; then went into Nettleton Little-Marsh, where another was moved, that, after running several rings, was lost by a fresh one getting up, which was killed and well saved. On the whole not a good day's sport; the scent was very bad all the day, owing, as it appeared, to continual impending showers; for as soon as the hare was killed we made the best speed to get home, but it rained so hard all the way that we were completely wet through, and, as the wind was just in our faces, we suffered severely.

Nov. 21*st.*—Threw off near to Tormarton, but it was some time before we found; in the warren one hare was moved, but she and others ran to-

wards the liberty, therefore tried back towards Formarton again, but did not find until we went on Kington-Down, where we soon found; but none liked to quit the thorns; however, in the course of the day, three of them ran out; the first took after Farmer Comley's down, and crossed the Turnpike-road into a piece of fallow, and away into some turnips, and back again into the said thorns; the second, or the same, went over the wall into Farmer Comley's down, and crossed the Turnpike-road into the Parks, where she made a double and laid fast until the hounds put her up; she was killed, and. by good luck, was well saved; then went back to the thorns, where another was found, that broke cover directly; she ran towards Farmer Comley's down, and along the Turnpike-road for some way, when she turned to the right across the same down, near to Kington-Village, and close after Kington-Wood, without going in, and away across the lower end of Nettleton West-Field, and crossed the Turnpike-road, then away to the Warren-House, where she turned, and ran through the three parks, and crossed again the Turnpike-road, and again over Farmer Comley's down, and into the said thorns. As the sun was nearly down the hounds were taken off; a very hard day for the horses and hounds. As a stranger can form no idea of the above hunt, it may be proper to say, that the length of the ground the hare and hounds ran over could not be less than

five miles; although the hounds did not hunt well in cover, but, when out, I never saw them hunt better. It was one of the best rings I ever saw, because she ran over good level ground.

Nov. 25th.—This day hunted on Marshfield-Down, where two hares were found; the first, a small one, was soon killed; the other, very stout, that stood up before the hounds more than two hours; she made only two rings, one short one into Farmer Baldings farm, the other near to Robin's-Wood, and round into Kington-Field, and back again to the said thorns; it was very singular, that two hares were moved on the down, that there were no trail, not a hound gave their tongues until a hare was up; and worse scent I never witnessed. Although the hounds gave her many fresh starts, they were 'most always at a check, except when she broke cover; then the pack ran and hunted so exeeding well, that she was nearly losing her life twice; they were both well saved; and, on the whole, not a bad day's sport.

Nov. 28th.—This day threw off at West-Littleton, where one hare was soon started, that ran for Dirham park, but was turned, and then ran towards Marshfield, and was lost.* Then tried towards Littleton-Down watering place, where another was started, that ran to Kington-Down, where we had plenty of hares, hunting, and riding.

* This hare was killed by a greyhound.

As it was a very fine day the scent did not lay well; the hounds hunted admirably in the thorns, and many times the hares broke cover and ran several rings; but the hounds could not hunt at any rate, and many of them were lost without coming back to the thorns. We had a great field, but the day's sport did not end well, because no hare was killed. A good day for George, but a hard one for the hounds and horses.

Dec. 1st.—Hunted this day near the Elm and Ash, where several hares were well hunted, and three of them were apparently run down, but not one of them were killed; in respect of killing, we seemed out of luck; when there is no hare killed, and still in hopes, we know not when to give up; therefore, another hard, profitless day for the hounds and horses.

Dec. 5th.—Threw off near to Tormarton, where three hares were started; two of them were killed and well saved, after two very sharp runs; the other ran directly to Dodington liberty, and part of the hounds; they ran and hunted all the day exceedingly well, but the air was so thick and foggy we could not see or hear the hounds at a very short distance.

Dec. 8th.—Hunted this day near to the Elm and Ash, where we found in the first field we tried; and in the course of the day two hares only were hunted, which, after running about three hours, were killed; one of them was well saved,

the other not; the last was the only hare this season that the hounds eat.

Dec. 12*th.*—After trying several of Tormarton fields without finding, one hare was found on Kington-Down, which, after running the thorns a short time, ran across Kington-Field into Shirrel-Brake, and then away into Kington-Down, and over the bridge and up the road near to Marsh-field, where she turned to the right, and crossed the bottom above Harkcom, and away through West Littleton village, into their field, and round the North side of Dirham-park to Hinton, where she turned to the left near to Doynton, and then the hounds were at a check, and, by a fresh hare getting up, the hunted one was lost; there the day's sport ended. As for my part, I saw none of the hunt, for in crossing Harcom-bottom we were all thrown out; had the hare been killed it would have been a good hunt.

Dec. 15*th.*—This day again threw off near to the Elm and Ash, where we found hares in great plenty; not less than three were found sitting in a small field; but as it was a hard frost the scent was bad in the fore part of the day, therefore the hares were lost as soon as found, but by some means one was killed; towards the afternoon the scent mended, and one hare was well hunted, and apparently run down; but it so happened, (and it often does) that the longer the animal was hunted the weaker the scent got; therefore, it was sop-

posed, she laid fast, and by that means was lost; after trying for her some time, a fresh one got up near to Dunly-House, that ran near to Grittleton, and back near to where she was moved, and then away to Surndel-Wood, and near to Malmesbury-Common, where she made an attempt to return, but was killed; they were both well saved. A better hunt no person would wish to see; now this hunt was very different from the other, for, instead of the scent failing towards the end, the longer she was hunted the stronger the scent.

Dec. 26th.—Since Saturday, the 15th we had very hard frost, and plenty of snow. I went out to Kington-Down and Harkcom-Bottom only to air the hounds; several hares were started; but, as it was excessive cold, there were no scent, nor hunting.

Dec. 31st.—This day hunted mostly on Kington-Down, where more than one hare were started; but, as the wind was still in the east, and very cold, there was no scent in the thorns, therefore, the hounds could not hunt in a manner to make them quit the same; one hare ran one good ring round Kington-Field, and back to the said thorns; after a short time another ran down to Farmer Comley's down wall, through Tormarton-Manor, away to Dodington-Park, and there the day's sport ended without any hare being killed. Mr. Lloyd, from North-Wales, accompanied us, who said,

that the hounds ran and hunted exceedingly well all the day.

Jan. 10*th*, 1809.—Owing to frost and a great deal of snow was not able to go out with the hounds until this day, and then we were in fear to venture far from home; but on Kington-Down we found hares in great plenty; and, as the scent was pretty good, had many hours of good running and hunting, and several hares were, by appearance, ran down, and, I supposed, we often changed. In Harkcom-Wood we exchanged from a hare to a fox, and it was some time before the hounds could be taken off; one hare only was killed, but not well saved. A very hard day for the hounds and horses.

Jan. 13*th*.—This day threw off in Nettleton Little-Marsh, where we soon found; and, in the course of the day, hares without number were hunted; as the scent was very good had continual running, but as the hounds often parted, not so good sport as when two or three hares only in a day are hunted; as the land was in a very wet state, it was hard work for the horses; one hare only was killed and well saved. The Marquis of Worcester, Lord Granville, Dr. Penny, Mr. Tarply, and others, were out this day.

Jan. 28*th*.—This day threw off on Kington-Down, where we soon found, but, what was very extraordinary, although it was a very fine warm

day, without sun, and the wind in the South, worse scent I never knew, take the day throughout; the hare we found on the Down we soon lost; then went near to the Warren-Barn, where we soon found again, but the scent was not much better; after starting two or more hares, the hounds divided, one part went off towards the New-House, and killed their hare; the other part (three or four couple) went off after a very stout hare that ran near to the Warren-House, away through the parks, across the turnpike-road to Farmer Comley's barn, then near to Kington, and up the bottom into Sherral-Brake, across the field to Kington-Down, over the same into Roundham-Bottom, across the brook into Harkcom, and, at last, recrossed the brook into Sherral-Brake, where we changed for a fox; and here the day's sport ended. There were two hares killed, and both well saved, but, on the whole, it was but a middling day's sport.

Jan. 31*st.*—This day tried round the Warren-Barn without finding; then went towards Acton-Turvil Marshes, where we found hares without number; the three first ran into Weather-more-Wood, but after that the hares in general ran on fair ground; and, as the scent was good, had many hours of good hunting; but, owing to so often changing, one hare only was killed and that well saved. A very hard day for the hounds and horses. All the company seemed willing to give in and return home.

Feb. 3d.—Threw off on Kington-Down, where a hare was seen on foot, but the hounds made little out in hunting her; it was such a rough high wind that we could not hear the hounds, nor the hounds hear one another; but it so happened, that about three couple of them went off a head with the hare, and we tried to ride after them for a mile or two, but we never came up with them, and could only see their tracks through a gate or two; but near to the Warren-Barn, one hare got up, and that, and many others, ran and shewed as good sport as any person wished to see; one hare was killed and well saved, being completely run down, and a rabbit was killed and well saved. It being a very wet morning we were not out until nearly the middle of the day; therefore, several persons were disappointed joining us.

Feb. 6th.—Threw off near to the Warren-Barn, where one hare was moved, that ran through Farmers Frankcom's and Bennett's farms, into Leigh-Grove liberty, where she turned and ran into one of the new plantations; when that, or another, went off in a strait line to Kington-Wood, and there the sport ended; about the time we started her it began to rain very hard, and so it continued nearly all the day; we were all completely wet through.

Feb. 10th.—This day hunted mostly in Acton-Turvil Marshes, where we found hares in great plenty, and a great deal of hunting and running,

but not a good scent, owing to the tempestuous weather, for it rained all the time we were out, with a strong wind, and we returned home much the same as last Monday though thoroughly wet; one hare was killed, after being fairly run down, and well saved; it so happened, that no hare this day ran to Weather-more-Wood, owing to the great quantity of rain and snow that had lately fallen. I never saw the land in so wet a state, worse riding could not be; very few fine days for months past.

Feb. 13*th.*—According to a promise I went out on Kington-Down; but, as the wind blew a hurricane all the day, and very cold, no person met us there; a worse scenting day could not be; we had several fresh starts, and that was all, except one ring into Kington-Field, and back again to the thorns.

Feb. 14*th.*—This day again threw off on Kington-Down, where we soon found one hare, that ran into Kington-Field and Sherral-Brake to Kington-Down, back again to Sherral-Brake, down the bottom to Kington-Village, and back half way the said field, when she turned towards Kington-Wood, and back near to the said village; then along the bottom towards Sherral-Brake, and was lost, owing, as we thought, to a very hard storm of rain. Came back again to the said down, where another was started, that ran down to the Turnpike-road in Nettleton-Field, and back again

into Acton-Turvil Marshes, where several fresh hares were well hunted, without one being killed.

Feb. 16*th.*—This day George went out with the hounds to Acton-Turvil, and, as he said, had continual running all the day, but no hare was killed. I was not able to go out this day, owing to my having yesterday a severe epileptic fit, as I was siting near the fire; one hand went into the same, and was burnt across, and my head, nose, and one leg were bruised. After writing the foregoing, it appeared that part of the hounds did kill a hare in the Duke's liberty, near Badminton, and was well saved, and it was supposed to be the hunted hare that ran into Weather-more-Wood.

Feb. 21*st.*—This day threw off on Kington-Down, where we found one hare, that soon broke cover and ran over Farmer Comley's down, crossed the Turnpike-road, and through the parks to the new plantations; as the scent was bad she was soon lost. Then another was started, that ran for Acton-Turvil Marshes, where many hares were well hunted, and one killed; on the whole a good day's sport.

Feb. 24*th.*—This day threw off near to Tormarton, where we soon found. We this day ran three hares; the first went directly into Badminton liberty, but the hounds being headed not many of them ran in; then came back to the same field, where another was moved, that ran very extensive rings, and was killed; then tried again the same field,

where another was found, which, after running still more extensive rings than the other, was killed on Kington-Down; they were both well saved. As the scent was excellent all the day, and the hares ran in good ground, had as continual hard riding as ever I experienced in one day. The first hare made an attempt to go to Dodington; the other ran through Tormarton street, and into the pound, over the wall, and out again; and over much ground after that.

Feb. 27th.—This day went to Marshfield Down, where we soon found a hare, that, after running a few rings in the thorns, took one good ring near to Marshfield, and back over the Down to the said thorns, where she was soon killed, and well saved; then, in trying the same thorns, another was moved, that soon broke cover, and ran near to Marshfield, and away to West-end Town, and back to Harkcom, and then in a zig-zag line to West-Littleton, where she turned to the right near to Toll-Down, and along the Bath road near to Dodington-park, where she saved her life; but as the hounds were so near her it was thought she must have been killed, which would have been the case had not a dog coursed her on the road, by which means the pack was at fault, and she had time to get on. As the day proved fine, the hounds ran and hunted exceedingly well, therefore a smart day's sport.

March 3d.—Threw off in Nettleton Great-Field, where we soon found, and for four hours we had continual running, and good hunting; but as for the number of hares hunted could not be ascertained; we were never at a fault; although no hare was killed, we may well call it a good day's sport.

March 6th.—Threw off this day at West-Littleton, but tried over all the parish without finding a hare. In Sherral-Brake we found, but, as the wind was very cold, there was no scent; late in the day the scent rather mended, therefore, we had two good rings round Kington-Field, and back to the thorns; one ran from the thorns near to the Warren-House, where we gave her a fresh start, and ran back to the said thorns; when that, or another, ran again to the Warren-House, through Mr. Frankcom's farm and Sodbury-Field into Dodington-Park; and there the day's sport ended.

March 9th.—This day threw off in Nettleton Little-Marsh, where we soon found; and, in the course of the day, many hares were as badly hunted as ever I saw; the hounds were never together, nor could we by any means get them to pursue a single hare, until we took them to the other side of Nettleton, where we soon found a hare, that ran directly to Acton-Turvil Marsh; the scent seemed somewhat better, and one hare was fairly ran down, killed, and well saved.

March 13*th.*—This day went to Kington-Wick, where we found hares in great plenty, but as it was still a cold March wind, there was no scent; as there appeared but little prospect of sport, we drew off to the parks, where we soon found a hare, which, after running several rings, was killed and well saved.

March 16*th.*—Went this day near to the Elm and Ash, where we soon found, and in the course of the day many hares were middlingly hunted. As the wind was still cold, the land dry, and the scent very bad, no hare was killed.

March 18*th.*—Threw off in the Parks, where one hare was started; and, in the course of the day, many were middlingly hunted. The land being still dry, and the air cold, the scent continued very bad; several of the hares ran to Dodington and Badminton liberty, but not one was killed.

March 20*th.*—Threw off near to the Elm and Ash, where we soon found; but, as the land was still in a very dry state, there was no scent; hares without number were badly hunted, but none killed.

March 23*d.*—Threw off near to Acton-Turvil, where many hares were badly hunted; the scent no better than the several days past we were out; and no hare was killed.

March 28*th.*—Went out this day for the last this season, and a bad day's sport it was; although

the land seemed to be in a good state, the hounds hunted very badly all the day; out of so many hares started there was but one that the hounds hunted any ways well, owing, as we thought, to thunder, lightning, hail and rain that came on towards noon; and here the sport ended, without any hare being killed.

Number of Hares killed in each Month; and Days the Hounds were out.

	No. of Days.	*Hares killed.*		*No. of Days.*	*Hares killed.*
Sept.	4	8	*Feb.*	9	6
Oct.	8	16	*March*	9	2
Nov.	6	15		—	—
Dec.	7	6	Total	47	Total 58
Jan.	4	5			And one rabbit.

Hares saved ..... 57 | *Hares eat* 1

Number of Days that no hare was killed, 17.

Field money given by Dr. Penny	£1	1	0
Ditto by others	4	16	0
Ditto by me	2	8	0
Total -	£8	5	0

Hares disposed of to the following Persons, in 1808 *and* 1809 :—

Dr. Penny,
The Rev. Mr. Hume, Kington,
The Rev. Mr. Poyntz, Tormarton,
Farmer Hatharel, Acton-Turvil,
Dr. Penny's servant,
The Rev. Mr. Denison, Nettleton,
John Bennett, Newhouse,
Thomas Beard, Tormarton,
Mr. Gaby, Chippenham,
Ditto,
Wm. Coats, Nettleton,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
Ditto,
Mr. Bryan, Badminton,
Harry Pocock, Bath,
James Hatharel, Acton-Turvil,
John Cambridge, Acton-Turvil,
The Rev. Mr. Swayne, Dirham,
Thos. Beard, Tormarton,
George Hawkings, Dirham,
Ditto,
Mrs. Wait, Marshfield,
The Duchess Dowager of Beaufort,
Ditto,
Thomas Beard, Allington,
C. Codrington, esq. Dodington,
Myself,
Miss Codrington, Bath,
Mr. Joseph Balding, Marshfield,
Isaac Lane, Dunly,
Samuel Frankcom, Tormarton,
The Duchess Dowager of Beaufort,
Ditto,
Wm. Arnold, Tormarton,
Mr. Hiatt, Chipping-Sodbury,
Mr. Wm. Osborne, Badminton,

Miss Phillips, London,
Samuel Tily, Chipping-Sodbury,
Mr. William Golding, Marshfield,
Mr. John Dowding, Dodington,
Wm. Osborne, jun. Badminton,
Farmer Clark, Nettleton,
The Hounds,
Farmer Chapel, Littleton-Drew,
Mr. Huggings, Nettleton,
George Hawkings, Dirham,
Farmer Rullings, West-Littleton,
The Rev. Mr. Hume, West-Kington,
C. Codrington, esq. Dodington,
Farmer Nicholas, Iron Acton,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
Farmer Frankcom, Great Badminton,
The Rev. C. Bryan, Marshfield,
Mr. Bryan, Badminton,
Farmer Crump, Marshfield-Down,
Mr. Matthews, Chippenham,
Duchess Dowager of Beaufort, Stoke,

OBSERVATIONS.

AT the beginning of the season we had good sport, and killed about the usual number of hares, until about the middle of December, when the frost set in, and it continued to freeze and snow almost all the latter part of the season; even through the month of March it was very bad scenting weather; on the whole, it was one of the worst scenting seasons I ever knew for hunting; we did not kill so many hares this season as we generally did by twenty brace. One thing is worthy of remark, which is what few sporting persons in my situation can say, of fifty-eight hares killed, only one of them was eat by the hounds; all the others were so well saved as to be fit to give away to any person. I think the hounds last year eat, out of one hundred and four, *fourteen*.—No accident happened to any horse or his rider.—As for the number of hares, since I have hunted I never saw them so plenty, which, though paradoxical, was the cause of our killing so few. During the winter I had one very bad epileptic fit, not from home, but near to my own fire side.—The good Lord preserve me from such another! George's horse was in high condition all the winter, and carried him exceedingly well. As I did not much like my bay mare, I sold her, and bought a pretty nag with part of the money.* I hope he will do well, because he exactly suits me in all respects.

*April 21st.—Is now bad with a cold.

HUNTING

IN

1809 *and* 1810.

HUNTING commenced this season on *Friday, September 22d,* 1809.—Went out with the hounds on West-Littleton-Down, where two hares were started; the first ran directly to Dodington-Wood, but did not run in; a fresh one got up, that ran in; whilst a small part of the said hounds followed the hunted hare towards Tormarton, which they either killed or lost; the other part of the hounds was soon got out of the wood, and the hare, after a smart run, was killed and well saved.

Sept. 28th.—Threw off near to Tormarton, but no hare was to be found until we went on Kington-Down, where we found them very plenty; being a very rough wind, and stormy, there was no scent in cover or out; therefore, had no great sport; and we killed only a rabbit.

Oct. 2d.—Threw off in Nettleton West-Field, where no hare was to be found; but near to the

Village plenty were found, that shewed good sport, although no long runs; as the scent was good, four were killed; two of them was well saved, the other two the hounds eat.

Oct. 5th.—This day a hare was found near to Tormarton Church, that ran directly for Dodington liberty, but turned to the right, ran away to the Cross Hands, and near to the New House, when we had several up at a time, one of which made towards Leigh-Grove, and the hounds were taken off in order to pursue the hunted hare; but whether we found that, or another, I could not tell; but we started a very stout one, that, after shewing very good sport, was killed and well saved.

Oct. 9th.—Threw off near to Tormarton, and hunted mostly on Mr. Frankcom's farms, where we found plenty of hares, and, as they ran over good ground, they shewed as excellent sport as any person could wish to see; three hares were killed; two of them were well saved; the other was killed in cover and not saved.

Oct. 12th.—This day tried over many fields near to Tormarton without finding, therefore, we went on Kington-Down, where hares seemed to be very plenty; had a great deal of good hunting, and, after killing two hares, we drew off to the Warren, where we had a good afternoon's hunting, and killed another hare; they were all three well saved. An excellent good day's sport.

Oct. 17*th.*—Threw off near to Tormarton, but did not find very soon; in the Warren, however, we found three hares; but, as the land was in a very dry state, there seemed to be no scent, for as soon as the hares were out of sight they were lost. In the afternoon we drew off towards Acton-Turvil Marshes, where several hares were well hunted; two of them seemed to be properly run down; four were killed and very well saved. On the whole it was a most excellent day's sport; although there was not much hard riding, there was as much good hunting as ever I saw in one day: as the Marquis of Worcester wished to have a good day's sport, we made a long day, and the hounds appeared to be much jaded.

Oct. 19*th.*—This day went to West-Littleton, where we soon found; but, after two rings of cold hunting, the hare was lost. Then we tried over much land, without finding, until we came on Kington-Down, where we soon found, and, after hunting her for some time in and out of the thorns, was fairly ran down, killed and well saved. As part of the company wished to have another hunt, we tried some time on Tormarton Manor; one was found as we were going home, which ran for some time near to Tormarton, and away to Dodington Lodge, without going into the liberty, but was at last lost; the hounds hunted on Kington-Down very well; the other two hares were middlingly hunted. Some people say, that when the drops

stand on the bough it is a true sign of a bad scent, which was the case to-day, being a thick air without any rain or wind.

Oct. 23d.—Hunted this day at Littleton-Drew, where we did not find hares very plenty; but, in the course of the day, many hares were middlingly hunted. As the land was in a very dry state, the scent was bad; therefore, we had a great deal of cold hunting. Three hares were killed & well saved.

Oct. 26th.—This day went to Marshfield-Down; but, as Mr. Horlock was there with his hounds, and remaining on the down, I drew off near to Kington, where we started a hare, that ran directly to the said down, where a hare was killed; but whether by my hounds, or Mr. Horlock's, I could not say; and again I took my hounds away to Kington-Down, where one hare was killed, after shewing very good sport, and was well saved; after that another hare was moved, that, by all appearance, was entirely ran down; but, as Mr. Horlock's hounds came within our hearing, my hounds ran off and joined them a third time. After that move they were taken home. A middling day's sport; as the scent was good, if Mr. Horlock's had not interrupted us, we should have had great sport.

Oct. 30th.—This day we threw off near to the White-Gates, where we did not find, until we came to Old Lands; although we tried over many fields, the hares seemed not very plenty; and in the cover

we could not hunt, but out of cover we had good running. One hare only was killed, but not saved.

Nov. 2d.—Threw off in Nettleton Great-Marsh, where we soon found a very stout hare, that was killed, after running one hour; then another was moved, which did not run so long as the last, but was killed; they were both well saved. After that we went to Littleworth, where we soon found and hunted several stout hares, but not one was killed. Better hunting could not be.

Nov. 6th.—This day threw off in Robin's-Wood, where we soon found; after running one ring near to Harkcomb, and back again, the hare crossed the brook into Kington-Field, ran round the same, and away to Kington-Down, where we had several hares up at a time, and one hare was killed, but not saved. Then went on Marshfield-Down, but no hare could we find; after that one hare was found near thereto, and another was moved in Kington-Field, which, after running over good ground for three hours of good hunting, were both killed and well saved. A better day's sport I never wish to see, as the day was very fine, and the scent good.

Nov. 9th.—This day threw off in Nettleton Great-Marsh, where we soon found; and, as it was a fine day, the scent was very good; four hares were well hunted; they stood up nearly four hours of good hunting and hard riding; from the first hare, after she seemed to have been run down, we

changed; the other three were killed and well saved. A good day's sport.

Nov. 13*th.*—Went this day to West-Littleton, where we tried over many fields without success; but at last we found one, that ran over the down towards Tormarton, turned to the left, and was killed on the Bath road, near to Beacon-Lane, but not saved. Then went on Kington-Down, where we soon found, and without much running was killed; then another very stout hare was moved, which, after running several good rings, was killed and saved; another instantly got up, and we soon were in pursuit of more hares than one; but, as the hounds and horses seemed to have enough of it, we withdrew and returned home. It was a very fine day, and a good scent, excepting in cover.

Nov. 16*th.*—Threw off near to Tormarton, and tried many fields before we found; as it was a hard frost for the time of the year, with a bright sun, and a cold North wind, therefore, there was no scent; but we had a great deal of cold hunting; with the last we had a very good run for about two miles, but lost her on the Turnpike-road. One hare was killed and well saved.

Nov. 20*th*—A very hard frost.

Nov. 23*d.*—This day, by appearance, the land and air were in proper state for a good scent, but I never knew it so bad; we threw off in Robin's-Wood without finding; on Marshfield-Down we

soon found, and as soon lost; then another was found in some turnips, and that was soon lost; then tried on Kington-Down, where we could not find; then tried in the field, where we found one, that ran into Sherral-Brake, away to Kington-Down, back to the said brake, and to the Down, where we drew off and returned home, without one hare being killed.

Nov. 25*th.*—Hunted mostly this day on Tormarton-Manor; four hares were started, and, as the scent was good, they ran and shewed excellent sport. The first hare ran in a zig-zag line into Dodington liberty, but, as I was up with the hounds, they were prevented from going in; the other three were killed after running many very good rings; the second and last were well saved. The third was but middlingly saved.

Nov. 27*th.*—This day one hare was moved on Tormarton-Manor, that ran directly to Kington-Down, where we had several good rings, but no hare was killed there; but in Harkcomb-Bottom, and near thereto, two hares were killed; one was well, the other ill saved. On the whole a pretty good day's sport.

Nov. 30*th.*—Went this day to West-Yatton; but, as it was a very hard frost, the land very greasy, and rain depending, it was a bad scenting day; therefore, no great sport; hares we found plenty, but they all ran to the cover, which they did not

choose to leave; no hare was killed, although, at times, we were in a very likely way to do so.

Dec. 4th.—This day proved very wet and stormy, therefore, not a good scenting day. One hare was moved in Littleton-Drew-Field, which, after running one ring, went to Alderton-Grove, and, as she did not choose to leave the same, we drew off; then moved another near to Viner's house, which ran several rings, when we changed for another, that ran to Weather-more-Wood; and there the day's sport ended, without one hare being killed, without part of the hounds we left behind had a death to themselves, which, by the blood that appeared about them, appeared to be the case.

Dec. 7th.—This day being very wet did not go out on Kington-Down before 12 o'clock, where two hares were well hunted, killed and well saved; after making several rings round the field and down, they ran somewhat about two hours each, of good cold hunting, but not much hard riding.

Dec. 9th.—This day one hare was moved in Kington-Bottom, below Sherral, that ran directly to Marshfield-Down, and, as the hounds seemed to press her very hard for some time, I thought she could stand up no length of time; but at the first check she was lost. Then tried for several hours, without finding, until we came on Tormarton-Manor, where one was moved, that ran to Kington-Down. As the scent was exceedingly bad, we

drew off and returned home, after as sorry a day's sport as ever I did, or hope I ever shall see.

Dect. 12*th.*—This day threw off near to the Warren, where two hares were moved, that ran to Weather-more-Wood. Although it rained, hailed and snowed all the day, the scent was good; and, had not the hares ran into the liberty, we should have had a very good day's sport. One hare was killed and well saved.

Dec. 16*th.*—Threw off this day on Tormarton-Manor, where one hare was moved, that ran directly to Kington-Down; where, after running a few rings, (that or another) was killed and well saved; then tried on Mr. Comley's farm, in a field called Ox-Leaze, where one hare was moved, which, after running one ring round Nettleton West-Field, went directly to Weather-more-Wood; and this afternoon they mostly all ran to the same wood; although it was very cold, and rain depending, the scent was good; therefore, had plenty of good hunting; and, in the course of the day, not less than four hares had very narrow escapes of being killed, but saved themselves by mere chance.

Dec. 20*th.*—In the course of this day two hares only were moved and hunted; one in West-Littleton-Field, the other on Kington-Down; the hare moved in West-Littleton-Field was followed for several hours of very cold hunting, and I must say that I never witnessed two hares better made out by the hounds, without being lifted or hallooed

forward; the first was killed close to Tolldown-House, the other on Kington-Down; they were both well saved. A chilling, wet afternoon, with cold and slow hunting.

Dec. 22d.—This day a hare was found in the field called Ox-Leaze, which we supposed to be the same hare that we moved in the above field and hedge on Saturday last; she now ran to Kington-Wood, where we drew off; then another was moved near to Farmer Comley's barn, that ran to Acton-Turvil Marsh and back to the Turnpike-road, where she was killed; then another was moved in Nettleton-Field, that, after running several pretty good rings, was killed; they were both well saved. A pretty good day's sport.

Dec. 26th.—This day hunted mostly round the Warren-House; although, at one time, we were on Kington-Down, then near to Acton-Turvil, away to Weather-more-Wood, and into the verge. In the course of the day four hares were killed and well saved. A very great day's sport, and a good one for George.

Dec. 30th.—This day hunted mostly near Tormarton; and, in the course of the day, three hares only were hunted, killed, and two of them were well saved; another was killed in the Bath road, under Mr. Codrington's park wall. The hares all shewed good sport, but not long runs. As the weather seemed to lower, we gave up the sport early in the day.

Jan. 2d, 1810.—This day one hare was moved near to Littleton-Drew, but we hunted mostly near to Acton-Turvil, where two hares were pursued, the first shewed but about half an hour of very sharp running; the other was a very stout one, that ran for three hours; at times the hounds ran her very well, and at other other times we had very cold hunting; she went once into the Duke's park and back again; and, after running many rings, was killed. They were both well saved.

Jan. 4th.—This day one hare was moved near Tormarton, that ran to Kington-Down, where some greyhounds joined us, by that means the hare was lost; in the course of the day many other hares were hunted; two of them were killed and well saved; but, it so happened, that at times we lost part of the hounds, by their going off with the hunted hares unperceived; one of them they killed, and eat two of them; after sometime, we saw the lost hounds pursuing the hunted hare.

Jan. 9th.—This day hunted mostly on Kington-Down; in the course of the day three hares were badly hunted; the first, after running one ring out of the thorns, and a few in them, got into Dodington-Wood; the other was soon killed, without any running, and well saved; the third ran for some time in and out of the thorns, but the longer we hunted her the weaker the scent; therefore, we gave her up, and returned home very wet.

Jan. 12*th.*—Hunted this day at Kington-Wick, where we found hares very plenty, and for more than three hours we had continual running; as the scent lay well we had good hunting; yet, as we seemed to change often, there was but one hare killed, and that was well saved. A hard day for the hounds, I never saw them more tired.

Jan. 22*d.*—As it has been a very hard frost ever since the last time of going out, by the way of airing the hounds, we took them out into Harkcomb, where one hare was moved, and, considering the hard frost, the hounds hunted exceedingly well for some hours, but no hare was killed.

Feb. 1*st.*—By the request of Lord Wm. Somerset, I took out the hounds on Kington-Down, where one hare was found, which, after running several hours of as good cold hunting as was ever seen, was lost.

Feb. 3*d.*—This day tried over many fields, without finding, until we were on Kington-Down, where two hares were moved, and they both ran directly into Dodington liberty; the last was killed near Mr. Codrington's steward's house, after running some time in the plantation, and well saved; we had great reason to think it was the same hare that we brought from the Down.

Feb. 6*th.*—This day hunted at Acton-Turvil, where we had continual hunting and running, and hares without number; never did I see so many

hunted in one day; but not one was killed, nor likely to be killed.

Feb. 8th.—Hunted again near to Acton-Turvil; and, as the scent was good, and hares plenty, had very great sport; the hares in general ran very extensive rings, for at one time we were near to Alderton-Grove, then to Tormarton, away round to the Cross-Hands to Leigh-Grove, and near to Greekstone, where the last hare was killed. In the course of the day three hares were killed; the first by a few hounds that went off and killed her unknown to us, and eat her; the second, after running and shewing good sport, was killed and well saved; the third, killed near to Greekstone, was not well saved. More good running in one day I never saw. His Grace the Duke of Beauford, Lord Wm. and Lord Grenville, were out.

Feb. 12th.—Threw off near to the Warren-Barn, where we soon found; and, in the course of the day, many hares were well hunted; but it so happened, that the greater part of the hares ran either to Weather-more, or to the verge of the plantation; a brace were killed and well saved.

Feb. 24th.—Since the last time of going out it has been a very hard frost; this day threw off near to Littleton-Drew, where we soon found a hare, that ran directly to Alderton-Grove, and, after running in and out of the same three times, was lost by a fresh one getting up; but how many hares were moved and well hunted after that I could

not pretend to say. No hare was killed, although several of them were ran down, being a good scenting day.

March 1*st*.—Went this day to West-Littleton, where we soon found a hare, that ran for Dirham-Turnpike, and down the road after Mrs. Blathwayte's park wall, and over the same into the park, the hounds following; how they were to be got out we could not tell; in a short time the keeper appeared, he seemed very much enraged, and said he would fetch his gun and shoot as many as he could; he immediately put his threats in execution, and shot two, but did not kill them. Then tried again in the wheat field, where I found another hare, that ran directly for Kington-Down, which, after running the thorns a short time, took a very extensive ring over the Down, and away to Littleton, and near to Weston-Town, and back through Harkcombe to the said Down, and two rings after that. She stood up full two hours, but was lost by another getting up, that was killed and well saved, after a very good hunt. A better day's sport I never wish to see.

March 3*d*.—Threw off in the Warren, where one hare was found, that, after running one ring, ran into Weather-more-Wood, and it was some time before the hounds could be got together; then another was moved, which ran and shewed good sport, and was apparently entirely run down, when the hounds got on a fresh hare; although

the dogs ran and hunted exceedingly well all the day, and had many fresh starts, no hare was killed. A very hard day for the hounds and horses.

March 8th and 10th.—Hunted at Stoke, where, on the first day, we found several hares, that ran and shewed good sport, but no hare was killed, except two that were turned out. The second day we found several hares, but a worse scenting day I never experienced; therefore no hare was killed, although some of them seemed to be run down.

March 12th.—Went this day to West-Yatton, where we soon found, and as the scent was good, had a very good day's sport, and several of them were apparently run down, but only one killed, which was well saved.

March 16th.—This day hunted again at Stoke, where one hare was found about two miles from the said place, that ran directly for Stoke-Woods and plantations, and, after running there a short time, made a ring towards the sport where she was first started and back again to Stoke, where she was lost. Then went many miles before we found, and when we did, the scent was so bad we could not hunt.

March 20th.—This day hunted near to the Elm and Ash, where three hares were well hunted; the first was killed and well saved; the other two, after shewing good sport, at the first check the hounds were taken off.

March 23*d*.—This day threw off beyond Nettleton, where a hare was found; but as it was right March weather, that is a bright sun, with a brisk air, and the land very dry, therefore, no scent at all. Then we drew off towards Littleton-Drew, where we found hares in great plenty; and, I believe, had we kept to the first and second hare we should have killed them; but it so happened, that we could not keep the hounds together; therefore, no hare was killed.

March 26*th*.—Threw off at Old Lands, where we soon found; but, as the land was in a very dry state, and the air cold, there seemed to be no scent. Then we drew off to the other side of Littleton-Drew, where the scent seemed to mend; therefore, we had some good running, and, by appearance, two hares were ran down, but by fresh ones getting up, no hare was killed.

March 30*th*.—Threw off at West-Littleton, where two hares were moved; the first ran directly into Dirham-Park, but the hounds were prevented going in; the other, after running one good ring, went on Kington-Down, when, after running the thorns for some time, we drew off to the Warren, where we did not find until we were near Acton-Turvil Marshes, where we found more hares than ever, I believe, were seen before; one hare was killed and well saved. Here the year's sport ended.

Number of Hares killed in each Month; and Days the Hounds were out.

	Hares killed.	*No. of Days.*		*Hares killed.*	*No. of Days.*
Sept.	2	3	*Feb.*	6	5
Oct.	21	8	*March*	4	10
Nov.	12	9		—	—
Dec.	15	7	Total	72	Total 47
Jan.	12	5	And one rabbit.		

Hares saved ..... 65 | *Hares eat* 7

Number of Days that no hare was killed, 13.

Field money given by me	£3	8	0
Ditto by others	5	6	0
Total -	£8	14	0

Hares disposed of to the following Persons, in 1809 *and* 1810 :—

The Duchess Dowager of Beaufort,
A rabbit,
Farmer Marsh, Nettleton,
The Hounds,
Ditto,
Farmer Clark, Nettleton,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
Myself,
Mr. Frankcom, Tormarton,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
C. Codrington, esq. Dodington,
Nettleton keeper,

Duchess Dowager of Beaufort,
James Hatharel, Acton-Turvil,
George Hawkings,
Mr. Bryan, Badminton,
Wm. Coats, Nettleton,
Farmer Chapel, Littleton-Drew,
Mr. Denison, Nettleton,
Mr. Matthews, Chippenham,
The Hounds,
Farmer Coates, Littleton-Drew,
Mr. Dowding, Dodington,
The Hounds,
Mr. Davis, Marshfield,
Mr. Bryan, ditto,
C. Codrington, esq. Dodington,
Mr. Osborne, Badminton,
Wm. Osborne, ditto,
The Hounds,
Farmer Taylor, Nettleton,
Myself,
Mr. Hiatt, Chipping-Sodbury,
J. Bennett, Tormarton,
George Hawkings,
Samuel Tily, Chipping-Sodbury,
To a Man that saved her,
Mr. Swayne, Dirham,
C. Codrington, esq. Dodington,
Farmer Balding, Marshfield,
Harry Pocock, Bath,
Mr. William Golding, Marshfield,
S. Frankcom, Doynton,
Mr. Corry, near Taunton,
George Hawkings,
Farmer Marsh, Acton-Turvil,
J. Bennett, Tormarton,
T. Brookman, ditto,
The Hounds,
Farmer Ally, Dirham,
Mrs. Snell, West-Littleton,
Farmer Hatharel, Acton-Turvil,

Thomas Beard, Allington,
Dodington keeper,
Mrs. Harvey, Chipping-Sodbury,
Dr. Walch, Bath,
Mr. Tiler, West-Kington,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
The Hounds,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
The Hounds,
T. Young, Chipping-Sodbury,
Thomas Beard, Tormarton,
Mr. Matthews, Chippenham,
Farmer Gishford, West-Yatton,
Farmer Walter, Nettleton,
Farmer Nowel, West-Kington.

OBSERVATIONS.

THE land, at the commencement of the season, was in a good state for hunting, not too dry nor too wet; and so it continued until the 13th of January, when a severe and sudden frost set in, which injured the wheat very much; and, in general, had very middling scenting weather all the latter part of the season; very few hares were killed after Christmas. As for hares, I never saw them so plenty all the season. No accident happened either to horse or rider, but two of the hounds were shot by the Dirham keeper, but not killed.

HUNTING

IN

1810 *and* 1811.

By way of an Introduction, I shall give my Readers the following Song.

Tune—The Jolly Beggar.

I am a jolly Hunter,
And rise before 'tis day,
Let loose my dogs, and mount my horse,
And halloo—"come away;"
And a hunting we will go.

Of all our fond diversions,
A Hunter is the best,
In spite of wars, and party jars,
The sport is to the test;
And a hunting we will go.

Brisk action cures the vapors,
The effects of lazy sloth,
And music makes us cheerful,
So Hunting's good for both;
And a hunting we will go.

Of NIMROD and of ESAU,
What mighty feats they tell,
On foot they followed hunting,
They lov'd the sport so well;
And a hunting we will go.

Had DIDO not lov'd hunting,
The amorous Trojan brave,
His Highness ne'er had solac'd
In JUNO's tempting cave;
And a hunting we will go.

EURIPIDES! had Hunting
Been minded like thy books,
The hounds had ne'er devour'd thee,
They know a Sportsman's looks;
And a hunting we will go.

And hadst thou, bold ACTEON!
Been minding but the game,
Thou ne'er hadst paid so dearly,
For peeping at the same;
And a hunting we will go.

ORION, foolish Hunter,
Allur'd by petticoat,
In the 'mid chace he loiter'd
And so his fate he got;
And a hunting we will go.

But, after this disaster,
Was made a heav'nly sign,
To view at least the jovial sport
He can no longer join;
And a hunting we will go.

The British King's a Hunter,
And frequent in the chace,
He minds no more than we do,
A weather beaten face;
And a hunting we will go.

Then fill your sparkling glasses,
And take them off with glee,
To all our brother Sportsmen—
Of course his Majesty;
And a hunting we will go.

HUNTING commenced this season on *Friday, September 28th,* 1810.—We threw off Littleton-Down, where one hare was moved, which, after a smart run, was killed; likewise three hares; they were all well saved. Considering the dry state of the land and a bright sun, the hounds ran and hunted well all the day. A good day's sport for the first time.

Oct. 1*st.*—Hunted this day chiefly on Nettleton-Manor, but we did not find hares very plenty; notwithstanding the land was in a very dry state, the scent was remarkably good, owing, as I suppose,

to not having any sun-shine. Four hares were kill-
ed ; three of them were well saved, the other the
hounds eat. A very good day's sport.

Oct. 4*th*—Threw off this day near to the War-
ren-Barn, where we found hares in great plenty ;
but as the land was still in a very dry state, and a
bright sun, there was no scent, and but middling
sport ; but, notwithstanding our having so little
good running, we killed plenty of hares ; not less
than four and a little one, and they were all saved.

Oct. 8*th*.—This day threw off on Marshfield-
Down ; as there was no trail it was a long time be-
fore we found, and when found we could not hunt ;
the land was still in a very dry state, with a bright
sun, and as warm as ever I knew a day in this
month ; one hare was killed after a smart run out
of the thorns, and well saved.

Oct. 11*th*.—This day threw off in Littleton-
Drew-Field, without finding one hare ; but near
to Acton-Turvil we found plenty of hares ; as we
had had a little rain, there was plenty of good
hunting ; three hares were killed and well saved
after shewing some good running.

Oct. 15*th*.—This day threw off again in Little-
ton-Drew-Field, where we soon found ; and in the
course of the day four hares were well hunted,
killed, and well saved ; the scent was good all the
day, although the land was still in a dry state ; as
we were going home the hounds put up a hare in
Acton-Turvil-Field, that ran to Alderton-Grove

where Mr. Cresswell's hounds joined us, and by that means I was thrown out for the latter part of the day. On the whole a good day's sport.

Oct. 18*th.*—Threw off in the Parks, but we did not find there; and then we tried on the Warren-Farm for some time before we started; as the land was in a very good state, having had some rain, four hares were killed; three of them ran and shewed very good sport; they were all well saved. As we had a respectable company, a good day for George.

Oct. 23*d.*—Hunted mostly this day on Tormarton-Manor, where we found hares very plenty; and four very stout hares were well hunted, killed and saved; it was but one of them that ran and shewed much sport; when two hares were killed we endeavoured to go home, but two more hares got up; as the scent was very good, it was impossible for any hare to stand up for any length of time.

Oct. 26*th.*—This day hunted near to West-Yatton, where several hares were hunted; the first was soon found, and, after a smart run, was killed; the second, after shewing good sport, was likewise killed; they were both well saved; more were moved, but they all ran to Mircomb-Wood, where another hare was killed, but not saved.

Nov. 1*st.*—Hunted this day at West-Littleton, where we found hares not plenty; after trying for some time one hare was found, that ran to Little-

ton-Wood, and from thence to Dirham-Wood, where she was killed and eat; then, after trying for some time, another was found; but, as the scent was very bad, the hare was soon lost. A very middling day's sport.

Nov. 5th.—Threw off near Tormarton, where we found hares in great plenty; although the scent was in the morning very bad, two hares were killed without shewing much sport; two others were started and hunted; and, as the scent seemed to mend, the last hare ran and shewed very good sport, and was killed; all of them were well saved.

Nov. 9th.—By some of the Duke of Beaufort's family I was requested to be at Stoke with the hounds on this day, to hunt on the morrow; but it unfortunately happened that Saturday was one of the most tempestuous days that ever I, or any other person, remembered; it began early in the morning, and continued twenty-four hours of hard rain, with a strong North-east wind, that did great damage to ricks and buildings, and it likewise tore up trees; therefore, the hounds remained there until Monday, when they were thrown off, and, after trying for some time, a very stout hare was found, that shewed good sport for one hour and a half of good hunting and running, was killed and well saved; after that another was tried for several hours without finding. Not a good country for hunting.

Nov. 15*th.*—Went this day to Slaughterford, where we found hares in great plenty, and some of them shewed pretty good sport, but, in general, they ran from cover to cover; one only was killed, but not saved. It unfortunately happened that George, in going over a low fence, scagged the old horse between the hair and hoof of one of his hinder legs, and, at this time, I am in great fear he will not be able to hunt again this season.

Nov. 19*th.*—This day threw off near to Tormarton, where one hare was found, that, after running several rings, was killed near Nettleton, but not saved. In Acton-Turvil Marsh another was found, that ran several very good rings, and was lost by a fresh hare getting up, which, after running for some time in Acton-Turvil Marsh, took away to Nettleton West-Field, and across the Turnpike-road to Farmer Comley's barn, from thence into Kington West-Field, through the brook, and over the mill pound, although the water at that time was very high; and then up a very steep hill, over a high wall into Kington South-Field, and away near to Wraxhall, where she was killed and well saved. On the whole one of the best day's sport I ever saw; such hunting and running hardly any person ever followed with harriers. As George ran on foot the hounds had no person to assist them, nor did they want any, because, during all the day, they were never at a fault. In running the two first hares no horse

that was out was out had any share with them, and, out of eight horsemen, only four were in at the death of the last.

Nov. 28th.—We intended to have hunted on Monday, but that and the next day were very wet; therefore, as this morning seemed inclined to be dry, we went out and tried many fields in the South part of Tormarton-Manor, where we found one hare, that ran near Nettleton and round to Acton-Turvil Marsh, which, after a few rings, was killed and well saved; then another was moved in Nettleton Little-Marsh, that ran for some time and was killed in Nettleton-Field; but whether it was the hunted hare, or a fresh one, I could not tell, for a small part of the hounds killed a hare whilst the other part still kept running and hunting; this hare was not saved; after that many hares were well hunted; but, owing to the great plenty found in Nettleton Great-Marsh and near there, no other hare was killed. As the land was in such a terrible wet state, it was a very hard day for the hounds and horses.

Dec. 4th.—As the weather had been lately inclinable to be very rainy, therefore, the land was still very unfavorable to the horses; but, at the same time, as the scent was good, the horsemen had but little share with the hounds. Near to the Warren-Barn one hare was started, and in the course of the day many hares were well hunted; some of them ran, not only to Weather-more-

Wood, but near to Badminton, into the verge, and away towards Petty France, and it was some time before the hounds could be got out. In the course of the day three hares were killed, and a brace were well saved; the other was taken up from the hounds by a man, who happened to be in at the death, and galloped off with it. On the whole a very good day's sport.

Dec. 7th.—Went this day to Cold-Ashton, where two hares were started, but very badly hunted, owing, as I suppose, to the great field of horsemen that hooped and hallooed in such a manner that the hounds were at a loss which to attend to; but, however, one of them was killed and well saved; the other was soon lost. A very bad day's sport.

Dec. 15th.—This day threw off in Nettleton Little-Marsh, where we soon found a very stout hare, that, after running several rings, was lost by another getting up; and that hare, after running for some time, and by appearance nearly ran down, when she started directly into Badminton Park, where she saved her life; it was some time before the hounds could be got out, but when they were out fresh hares got up, and all of them ran to the liberty three times. Although many hares were well hunted, not one killed, being the only day this season which no hare was killed.

Dec. 17th.—This day went again to Cold-Ashton, where, after trying all round the parish with-

out finding, we went to West-Littleton, and tried over the greatest part of that parish without finding a single hare: such a circumstance I scarcely before recollect to have occurred.

Dec. 22d.—Hunted mostly this day over Acton-Turvil, where many hares were well hunted; but, as we often changed, no hare was killed; but a rabbit was and saved. In the course of the day many hares ran for the liberty, but we had the good luck in stopping the hounds. It was a very hard day's work for the hounds, and a cold and greasy ride for the hunters, raining all the day long.

Dec. 26th.—This day threw off near to Tormarton, and, as it was a very good scenting day, many hares were well hunted, but the misfortune was, that every hare we started ran either to Dodington or Badminton liberty, excepting one, that was killed and well saved. A very good day's sport.

Jan. 9th, 1811.—For nearly two weeks past there has been a very hard frost, but this day we took out the hounds in order to air them; notwithstanding the land was so hard and dry, and the wind very cold, several hares were pretty well hunted, in such a manner as well suited foot people; as for riding that we could not think of doing; one hare was killed and well saved. I never experienced so much hunting in one day before, when I had no horse.

Jan. 16th.—Went out with the hounds and threw off near to Acton-Turvil for the first time

for three weeks, the weather having been either a hard frost or wet; as this day was fine, we had plenty of good hunting; but, owing to the multiplicity of hares, not one was killed, although we gave many of them fresh starts. A very hard day for the hounds and horses. This was the first time that George rode his horse since the 15th of November.

Jan. 19*th.*—Hunted mostly this day on Tormarton and Acton-Turvil Manors; and, as the day proved fine, the scent was very good, and many hares were well hunted; two of them were killed and well saved. In coming home a hare was started near to the New House, that ran directly near to Tormarton; from thence to Dirham Field, and away to the top of Hinton Hill, where we gave her a fresh start, and then again to Tormarton, and away to Kington-Down; from thence to Nettleton West-Field, and crossed the Turnpike-road into Acton-Turvil Marshes; there we changed, and the hounds divided, and by that means she saved her life. She ran all her rings in a zig-zag line, and all who were out declared it was as good a run as ever they saw with harriers. Several times she was started a fresh, and nearly like to lose her life. A very hard day for the hounds and horses.

Jan. 22*d.*—This day threw off near to Littleton-Drew, where we found hares very plenty, but as the land was hard frozen, the scent was very middling, therefore, not much good hunting; the

last hare shewed some pretty good sport, was killed and well saved.

Feb. 4th.—This day went out with the hounds for the last time, and tried near to Tormarton, where, we supposed, two hares were moved; the one ran directly to Dodington; the other to King-ton-Down, from thence near West-Littleton, and round to Farmer Taylor's barn, where we gave her a fresh start; then she went into Harkcombe-Bottom, where she was lost; and HERE ENDED MY HUNT, AFTER ENJOYING IT FIFTEEN YEARS.

Number of Hares killed in each Month; and Days the Hounds were out.

	Hares killed.	*No. of Days.*		*Hares killed.*	*No. of Days.*
Sept.	4	1	*Jan.*	4	4
Oct.	27	8		—	—
Nov.	11	6	Total	50	Total 30
Dec.	4	11	And one rabbit.		

Hares saved ..... 45 | *Hares eat* 5

Number of Days that no hare was killed, 2.

Number of Days no hare was found, 1.

Field money given by me	£7	7	0
Ditto by others	1	19	6
Total -	£9	6	6

Hares disposed of to the following Persons, in 1810 *and* 1811 :—

Mr. Poyntz,
Mr. Manning,
Mr. Meyler, Bath,
Farmer Eyles, West-Littleton,
The Hounds,
Farmer Ranals, West-Littleton,
Mr. Bryan, Badminton,
Mr. S. Osborn, ditto,
Joseph Bennett, Tormarton,
Thomas Beard, ditto,
Samuel Frankcom, Dinton,
Rev. Mr. Hume, West-Kington,
Dowager of Beaufort,
C. Codrington, esq. Dodington,
James Hatharel, Acton-Turvil,
William Osborne, Badminton,
John Dowding, Dodington,
Farmer Lester, Littleton-Drew,
John Hall, Nettleton,
The Rev. Mr. Swayne, Dirham,
Mr. Viner, Bath,
The Rev. Mr. Bryan, Marshfield,
Henry Godwin, Dodington,
Mr. Golding, Marshfield,
Mr. J. Balding, ditto,
His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
The Duchess Dowager, Stoke,
Mr. Thomas Beard, Allington,
Mrs. Hannah Tily, Sodbury,
The Hounds,
Farmer Gaisford, West-Yatton,
George Young, Box,
William Tily, Chipping-Sodbury,
Samuel Tily, ditto,
Farmer Arnold, Tormarton,

Duchess Dowager, Stoke,	A stranger,
The Hounds,	A rabbit,
Ditto,	Mrs. Pocock, Bath,
William Arnold, Tormarton,	The Rev. Mr. Williams, Marshfield,
The Rev. Mr. Poyntz, ditto,	His Grace the Duke of Beaufort,
The Hounds,	John Bennett, Tormarton,
Daniel Wait, Marshfield,	His Grace the Duke of Beaufort.
Thomas Beard, Tormarton,	

Number of Hares killed and saved, and eaten by the Hounds; the Hunting Days, and Days that no Hare was killed; and the Field-Money given to the Huntsman, in the whole Fifteen Seasons that I hunted and kept the Hounds.

Hares killed and saved	1077
Hares not saved	105
Hunting days	789
Days that no hare was killed	160

Rabbits	10	Martin Cats	4

Money given to George	£139	10	9
From the Hounds when Sold	4	4	0
	£143	14	9

FURTHER OBSERVATIONS.

EVERY Person who keeps a Pack of Harriers and has no Manor of his own to hunt on, must get the good-will of some Nobleman or Gentleman who has such Manors, which was the case with me; although I have land in four parishes I have no Manor. When I went on my own lands I always found hares in plenty, but they generally ran from cover to cover, and when there we often went on Mr. Methuen's Manor, at Biddeston, where I never was denied. Now I was under the necessity of asking his Grace the Duke of Beaufort for his hunt at West-Littleton, Tormarton, Acton-Turvil, Littleton-Drew, Sopworth, Didmarton, and Oldbury, and when hunting on the said Manors, we often went on Luckington, Sherston, and Alderton Manors, where I ever enjoyed the liberty of sporting. While Lord Chedworth was living I had Nettleton and West-Kington Manors to hunt on; and since the two above Manors were sold I have not been denied on Nettleton; but on Kington Mr. Codrington denied me, because I voted against him at a Turnpike Meeting, and likewise on Marshfield Manor. Some years since, I generally went several times to Saddleworth in a winter, where we hunted on many Manors, and never denied; and sometimes we took a turn on Mr. Hartley's Manor, at Sodbury, where I never was forbid; but, on Horton

Manor, after hunting for some years there, Mr. Brooke thought proper to serve me with a written notice of forbiddance. Before Sir Charles Bannfylde sold Waply and Codrington, I often hunted there without any denial. On the Manors of Dirham and Hinton I hunted, and was never denied until a near accident happened; as George was bringing the hounds along Hinton Field a dog crossed the road, and the hounds ran after him into Mr. Blathwayte's Park, and after the Deer; and, as George was by himself, it was some time before the hounds were got out; no Deer was killed, or drove out of the Park; and for that Mr. Hathaway and myself were served with a notice of forbiddance; but, after a short time, we hunted again on the said Manor without any denial. We sometimes ran on Mr. Scroope's Manor, and into what we call Coomb-Castle, but he, nor his keeper, ever were displeased with us in so doing, but always said I was welcome to hunt over his Manors whenever I pleased, provided I did not go the Castle. There was a time that Mr. Scroope set steel traps in the Castle, but charged his keeper, Nathaniel Bushell, whenever he should hear my Hounds running near to the Castle to go and spring the traps, and if the Hounds should run in to do his best to get them out, which Mr. Scroop assisted once himself, without a word of blame to us. When we

hrew off at Littleton-Drew, we often ran on Mr. Houlton's Manor, at Grittleton, and many times I had seen that Gentleman, when I was hunting there, but he did not seem displeased with me; for one time when we were running a hare, and was at a fault, he said, let the Huntsman hold the Hounds down a lane, for he said the Hare was gone there. But after that Mr. Houlton was induced to send me a notice of forbiddance; I did not pay much attention to the said notice, but soon after, as I was served with the same, I sent Mr. Houlton a letter, wherein I said that I did not wish to throw off on his Manor, but if I should put up a hare on the Duke's liberty I should like to pursue the same, which I did, and with which Houlton never seemed to be displeased; but it so happened, that the parish of Grittleton consists of two Manors, between Mr. Houlton and the Rev. Mr. Burns, who said that I was welcome to hunt in the parish in what manner I pleased. Now I have done with the great men, I shall say a few words in respect of the keepers: Mr. Scroope's, Nathaniel Bushell, always behaved to me civil and obliging; and John Hall, of Nettleton, never behaved amiss; Peter Clark, Dirham keeper, at one time behaved very bad, when my Hounds ran into Dirham-Park, where he shot two of them, but did not kill them. The Duke's keeper, Thomas Webb, behaved

to me worse than all the other keepers put together; I had a great deal of very saucy language, and he once shot the Hare before the Hounds.

MEYLER AND SON, PRINTERS, BATH.